# The Story of a Celebration

## Bridgehampton 1860-1910

Gc
974.702
B76h
1247300

M. L.

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 1833 01150 1712

Anna L. Gardner
Dec. 31, 1910.

# The Story of a Celebration

## Bridgehampton, Long Island

## 1660-1910

EDITED BY JOHN E. HEARTT

PUBLISHED BY THE
HAMPTON PRINTING & PUBLISHING COMPANY, LTD.

1910

PRESS OF THE BRIDGEHAMPTON NEWS

1217300

# CONTENTS


| | |
|---|---|
| Our Heritage | 5 |
| The Story of the Celebration | 9 |
| Address of Henry T. Rose | 28 |
| Address of the Rev. L. Mason Clarke, D. D. | 31 |
| Address of Rev. Arthur Newman | 34 |
| Address of Hon. Henry P. Hedges | 38 |
| Address of Rev. Arthur T. Pierson, D. D. | 78 |
| Address of Wm. S. Pelletreau, A. M. | 82 |
| History of the Monument and Celebration Movement | 103 |
| The Legacy of Our Ancestors | 105 |
| The Piersons and Pierson Houses | 117 |
| More About the Old Pierson Papers Found in Sagaponack, April, 1909 | 122 |
| God's Houses | 131 |
| The Old Mills | 139 |
| Old and New School Houses | 140 |
| Our Old Houses | 141 |
| Our Modern Houses | 144 |
| Brief Mention of Miscellaneous Matters | 145 |
| Contributors to the Monument Fund | 146 |
| Epilogue | 149 |

The publishers, in placing this book before the public wish to add a word in appreciation of the work accomplished by the editor, Mr. John E. Heartt. The completed book is far beyond the original intention in the number of engravings, the amount of historical matter, the quality of paper and workmanship. This has been made possible only by the earnest, patient, co-operation of the author.

# OUR HERITAGE

By Harriet Hunting Pierson

# OUR HERITAGE

Through all the land no shout of war, no clash of arms is heard,
Yet patriot hearts beat high to-day and patriot souls are stirred;
Freedom's fair colors float above, against the arching sky,
While the glorious pageant of the past unfolds to every eye;
For memory brings us treasures from out a boundless store,
And reads for us the record of the days that are no more,
Of the fathers and the founders of Bridgehampton-by-the-Sea,
The gallant, brave defenders of her life and liberty.

With bold and dauntless spirits, with steadfast hearts they came,
Inspired by lofty purpose, not lured by wealth or fame,
But seeking on this surf-beat isle the homeland of the free,
With faith in Him who chose them for a royal destiny.
To Him they reared their altars upon this alien shore;
Loss, trial and privation unflinchingly they bore;
And when the war clouds gathered and broke in thunder-tone,
They rose in might to battle for the cause they made their own;
Not theirs to faint nor falter, not theirs to shun the fight,
But theirs to dare and suffer for the triumph of the right.

Now in their last long sleep they lie, yet sundered far and wide,
For some have found a resting place below the surging tide;
Some lie beneath the southern skies, with the flag upon their breasts;
Some in the purple shadow of towering mountain crests.;
Some sleep below the sod they loved, beside the restless waves,
While the stars like watchful sentinels in silence guard their graves.
The wild winds sweep above them through the years that come and go,
The winter snows drift over and the summer roses blow;
But o'er their dreamless slumber, with a tender sweet refrain,
Let memory chant their praises—they have not lived in vain.

To-day we clasp their hands across the spaces of the years,
We feel their joys and sorrows, their human hopes and fears;
We know the ties that bound them to the soil their feet have trod,
Their love for home and hearthstone, for country and for God.
And they who here have toiled and wrought in patience and in power
Have left to us, unearned, unbought, a rich, a priceless dower.

More than the wealth of empires we count their sterling worth,
Their love of truth and virtue, their noble pride of birth;
Beyond all thought or measure is the sacred debt we owe,
For the heritage that comes to us from out the long ago.

We bring no fading garlands, no bay, no laurel crown,
But this our grateful tribute to these men of fair renown—
A monument of granite, to tell of arms unstained,
Of loyal hearts, of valiant deeds, of victories nobly gained.
Here will it stand when voices that speak to-day are dumb,
A sight to thrill the pulses of heroes yet to come.
All hail, these names immortal, our patriot sires of yore!
In the hearts of their children's children they will live forevermore

HARRIET HUNTING PIERSON

# The Story of the Celebration

By John E. Heartt

# THE STORY OF THE CELEBRATION

FOREWORD

Anyone who has studied the history of Bridgehampton from its settlement on the shores of Sagaponack in 1660, through the wars of 1776-1781, 1812-1815 and 1861-1865 and up to the year 1910 must acknowledge that it holds a unique place in the annals of state and country If God ever blessed a place, He has blessed Bridgehampton and continues to raise His hand in benediction upon it. He has given the village and its borough settlements good air, pure water, a most salubrious environment and a location between the sound and the ocean that saves it from the severity of the electric storms of summer and the fierceness of the terrible blizzards of the winter season. Its civil history is phenomenal in number of men it has produced in its two hundred and fifty years of life, who have held high positions in state and nation. No village in the state or country has a record in this respect that Bridgehampton holds. Its religious history is also remarkable. The first Presbyterian Church edifice, the first in the village, was built in 1686, its second in 1737 and its third in 1843, and in that time only nine ministers have sheparded the ever increasing flock. Its first minister served the people fifty years and the present pastor, Rev. Arthur Newman, has occupied the pulpit for twenty-eight years. The attacks of infidelity against the church some years ago in the person of a foreign schoolmaster only served in the end to draw the people closer together, increase the Christian fervor and bring many souls to Christ. The Methodist Church was founded here in 1832. The first church edifice of this denomination was erected in 1832 and stood on part of property now owned by St. Ann's Mission and D. L. Chester. The second edifice was built

in 1871 at the head of Butter Lane. St. Ann's Mission of the Episcopal Church was founded in 1906 by the Rev. S. C. Fish and this beautiful church, with the adjoining rectory, occupies the property which was formerly a part of the Atlantic House, corner Main Street and Hull Lane. Situated between two Indian settlements, that of the Montaukets on the east and the Shinnecocks on the west, Bridgehampton enjoyed a perfect peace all through the stirring days when Indian tribes elsewhere were massacreing the whites and destroying their property. The village has preserved to this day the religious spirit of those who first settled the place and in no village in the state will you find the Sabbath more respected and in but a few the Sabbath so completely given over to church going as in old Bridgehampton. Its military history is likewise noteworthy, if not unique Its quota of soldiers who volunteered for the wars of 1776, 1812, and 1861 was much larger than any other village in the Empire State and the record of these men and the battles in which they were engaged furnishes a most brilliant page in the history of the state. There are more old men and women in Bridgehampton to-day than you will find anywhere else and these men and women are enjoying the health and strength that few men and women enjoy who are half their age Looking backward the men and women of Bridgehampton must find very much to be thankful for in ancestry and opportunities which they have been able to grasp and hold fast to by virtue of rugged health, which is God given. All have prospered and all are prospering, to-day, for it is a fact that there are no really poor people in the village and never have been. These are the evidences of God's blessing on the village, and for the blessed privileges that our forefathers enjoyed and we are enjoying in full measure,

to-day, we should ever have thanksgiving in our hearts and praise on our lips; and we have these good and sufficient reasons for erecting a monument embodying our history and as a witness to what God has done for us hitherto and for celebrating as we have just celebrated the two hundred and fiftieth year of the settlement of a peaceful, prosperous and God fearing village. The story of the celebration we give in the three chapters that follow.

## CHAPTER 1

The celebration of the 250th anniversary of the settlement of Bridgehampton began on Thursday, June 30th, 1910. It was the Children's Fete and it was held on the grounds of the Hampton House. The day was propitious, the attendance large and the exercises enjoyable. In the afternoon four hundred and twenty adults passed through the gate and in the evening more than eight hundred people witnessed the children perform in characteristic exercises of the olden times. These included the May Pole Dance, Hiawatha, Miles Standish, Colonial Flag, Washington's Wedding Party, The Daughters of Dorcas, Over the Teacups, the Parting, Old Fashioned School, Sold at Auction, the Soldier's Return and the Minuet.

The evening exercises consisted of singing, illustrative dialogues, graceful drills and old-fashioned dances and included Making the Flag, Hoop Drill, May Pole Dance, Eight Little Puritans, When Grandma Danced the Minuet, Flag Drill and a number of other patriotic exercises. All the efforts of the children were very meritorious and elicited as they deserved, the plaudits of the large and enthusiastic audience. Among the attractive features of the exhibition was a full-sized log cabin, just outside of

which old fashioned Indian pudding was served in cups; a prairie schooner, such as was used in the early and middle portions of the nineteenth century in crossing the great plains, then almost unpeopled except by Indians, that stretched from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans; an old well sweep, whose bucket brought up lemonade, however, instead of the crystal waters from Bridgehampton's pure and never failing springs; Indian tepees, where the richest of milk was served, whose butter fats filled more than the neck of the bottle, out of which it was poured as it was wanted; and old May poles, such as our ancestors in their girlhood and boyhood days used in dancing those delightful and graceful dances of long ago on capacious lawns that would be looked upon as great farms to-day; in those days when the highways were almost as wide as Sagaponack Lake in its widest part. Every attendant at the Childrens Fete, held under the bluest of skies and on the rarest of June days, was imbued with the spirit of a celebration which would have its culmination on July 4th and which would give to Bridgehampton its first commemorative monument of four epochs in village history. The children, too, had the inspiration of the occasion and did all their work, even to the minutest detail, in a way that not only brought credit to themselves but reflected creditably on the past and helped to brighten and joyously anticipate the coming events. The evening exercises of the Children's Fete were brought into the spot light by the powerful headlights of two automobiles, several mischievous and unpatriotic boys having removed the colored lanterns that were to have been used in throwing light upon the tableaux and the pantomimes The Rev. Mr. Newman, with the aid of the fire chief's trumpet announced the numbers of the programme. The afternoon and evening

were diamond points in the children's part in celebration week and in all they did they had the support of both permanent and summer residents. Their patriotism was unselfish and when their work is told some day by an abler pen than ours it will make a particularly bright page in the history of the movement which had its culmination in the beautiful monument on the village green. The work of those who drilled the children in their parts was commendable and showed patience, skill and persistent labor that deserves mention here.

## CHAPTER 2

The second day of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of Bridgehampton was strictly religious in character and was divided into three parts: the service of the morning in all three churches, that of the union services in the afternoon under the shade of the great trees on the Presbyterian church lawn, and the evening union service in the Methodist sanctuary. The morning services in all the churches were uplifting, patriotic and glorified God for his manifold goodness unto the people of Bridgehampton from its settlement in 1660 up to the present moment. The officiating clergymen were the Rev. Arthur Newman, in the Presbyterian church; Rev. J. W. Eggleston, in the Methodist church; and the Rev. Samuel C. Fish, in the Episcopal church. At the Presbyterian church the duo of piano and organ played by Miss Ada Rogers and Miss Lettie Ludlow was simply beautiful. Both instruments so blended their tones by the artistic skill of the players that it seemed at times as though but one instrument was being used and that one had the power of both. The Sunday School marched in, led by flag bearers carrying

the American colors, all singing in strong voice "Onward, Christian Soldiers". After they had been seated the two galleries were packed, and all pews in the body of the church were occupied. All of the services had reference to the commemorative service of the succeeding day but from a purely religious view point only. The Rev Mr. Newman preached a short but forceful sermon on the first three monuments mentioned in Biblical history, the stones erected at Bethel, Mizpah and Bethlehem. Each of these monuments was erected for a special reason and each has had a lesson for every person in every generation since. The service in its entirety was inspiring and peculiarly preparatory to the service of the afternoon in nature's great cathedral.

The sermons by ministers in the other local churches were also invested with local color and had peculiar reference to God's care and watchfulness over the people of the village in the past two and half centuries.

In the afternoon, the sky was obscured by a smoke mist which reminded one of an Indian summer day rather than one in early July. The background of the beautiful church building, artistically decorated with our national colors was pretty in the extreme; and on the entrance platform to the church the piano was installed. The speakers platform faced the church entrance and on the lawn under the umbrageous trees were seated more than twelve hundred people. The service began with the singing of "Come Thou Almighty King", after which there was responsive reading, followed by the Lord's prayer. Then "Our God, our Help in Ages Past" was sung, at the close of which the Rev. Henry T. Rose, pastor of the First Church of Christ (Congregational) of Northampton, Mass., was introduced. His address had particular reference to old Bridgehampton, the sturdiness of its people and

CHILDRENS' FLAG DRILL

their loyalty to God. He was proud, he said, of his Bridgehampton ancestry, and referring to the old church he remarked that the church colors should be White, Brown and Gray, those being the names of three of the church's, ministers. He also spoke incidentally of Buell and Lyman Beecher who filled the pulpit of the church at East Hampton, and of the Rev. Jonathan Edwards coming a long distance in order to preach the ordination sermon on occasion of the installation of the Rev. Buell, as pastor of that church. His thread of thought was that all the pastors of the church here and in our sister village, East Hampton, were men of great piety, fearlessness of character, profound learning and abounding with love for and loyalty to God, their country and the people of their pastorates. At the close of Rev. Dr. Rose's address the choir sang "O Worship the King, All Glorious Above" and then the Rev. Dr. L. Mason Clarke, a summer resident of Bridgehampton for ten years and pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn, was introduced. He said, he, too, was proud of his ancestry, but while he loved the days of auld lang syne yet he was glad he was born in this age. He had read of a call which a minister received in the olden time, in which the compensation paid was a few pounds per year and the privilege of having his wheat ground first at the mill on Monday morning. He also said he had come from good American stock but he was glad he was descended from that one of two brothers who had left his father a patrimony of 40 pounds rather than the one who left his daughter six shillings. He called the attention of his listening audience to the fact that the 3d of July was a memorable day in America's history, in Colonial days, in days of the Revolutionary war, and in the wars of 1812 and 1861. It was a day on which in all

four epochs great and decisive battles were fought, and the day, at this very hour, four o'clock, when the Confederate army at Gettysburg was hurled back in its efforts to force its way through the gate of that bloody battlefield into northern territory.

In the evening, services were held by the Methodist and Presbyterian churches in the sanctuary of the latter at which addresses were made by Rev. Arthur Newman and the Rev. J. W. Eggleston, in which the main theme was God in His church, in our country and in Bridgehampton, all of which had its focus on the morrow at the unveiling of the monument as a witness of God's care of us from the date of village settlement in 1660 to the present hour in 1910. Between the addresses the hymns "Swell the Anthem, Raise the Song" was sung and a male choir very heartily sang Mrs Howe's "Battle Hymn of the Republic." All the services of Sunday and the Childrens Fete on the previous Thursday were anticipatory of the culmination of celebration ceremonies in the parade, the unveiling of the monument and historical addresses which had been announced and arrangements for which had been prepared on the most elaborate scale ever conceived by any committee ever appointed by any body in old Bridgehampton. And this culmination of preceding events will now be told in the next and last chapter of this Story of the Celebration.

## CHAPTER 3

July 4th, 1910, will ever be remembered by the thousands who were in Bridgehampton on that auspicious day. The scenes on the main street were kaleidoscopic, ever changing, yet ever beautiful. Every resident of the village was hopeful though doubtful as to what the weather would be, barometers were

MAKING THE FLAG

consulted, old gray-haired seafaring men of the past were asked repeatedly how they thought the weather would make up and many prayed that the day might be one of those ideal days which make Bridgehampton such a charming place to live in. For several days smoke mists covered the sky and made the sun look like a ball of fire, then the wind veered to the southeast and this brought in a heavy fog from the ocean. In the early morning of the day that was to be so crowded with events a sharp magnetic storm swept over the village, the thunder was unusually heavy and the lightning remarkably vivid, but only a few drops of rain fell. This quickly passed, the wind came round to the northwest, the sky gradually cleared, and long before noon fog and smoke mists had been driven seaward and old Bridgehampton had its ideal day; cloudless, full of ozone, the sun shining out of the blue concavity above over as fair a scene as artist ever painted or eye of man ever beheld.

Main street had been decorated for the principal event of the three days celebration with evergreen trees set about twenty feet apart, festooned with bunting of national colors, and each tree was topped with a small American flag. The grand stand, erected on the street opposite the old church, was prettily draped with crossed flags and streamers of red, white and blue.

The crowd was even greater than had been expected, even by the most enthusiastic citizen, and from the News office to the Liberty Pole it lined the street in an almost solid mass. So great was this out pouring of the people that an effort to find the editor of the News, who was somewhere on the main artery of the village, proved fruitless. And it was the happiest, best natured crowd we ever saw. The north side of the street resembled a little Coney Island. Stands for the sale of lemonade of all colors, the favorite frank-

furter, badges, canes, balloons, ice cream in cones, etc, crowded each other and were well patronized.

At eleven o'clock the parade, of which J. W. Shanahan was Marshal, started from the Liberty Pole, where the monument was sheathed and hidden in the folds of Old Glory, in the following order:

Mounted Policeman
Sag Harbor Cornet Band
Improved Order Red Men from Bridgehampton and Sag Harbor
Float with Canoe and a Prince and Princess royal of the tribe of Shinnecock
Continentals carrying old flintlock muskets.
Military company from Shelter Island under the command of Rev. H. S. Wallman
The Order of Pocahontas in an omnibus
The Bridgehampton Fire Company under command of foreman C. A. Halsey.
The Junior Order of United American Mechanics from Bridgehampton, Sag Harbor, Amagansett and Shelter Island
Float representing Uncle Sam and Columbia.
Float (1660) with a whipping post and a master whipping a slave
Float showing new and old way of washing, ironing, and sewing
Float representing a mother and her children in 1660
Float representing a family of 1910, a charming young woman holding a beautiful pug dog.
Float representing maidens of Colonial days making candle dips and spinning.
Float with sleigh made in 1660.

The procession continued up Main Street to Butter Lane, to Railroad Avenue, to Lumber Lane, to Atlantic Avenue, to School Street, to Main Street to the village green where it disbanded. Every heart beat with pride as the procession filed by and the hand

clapping was deserved by every organization that took part in it. Our firemen marched like veterans, the Continentals, some of whom had passed their three score and ten carried their old flintlock muskets like boys and with heads erect and legs limber appeared like them, too; the Red Men made a fine showing too, as did the Junior Order United American Mechanics; the military company from Shelter Island elicited as it deserved tumultuous applause for its fine appearance and military precision. The floats were all tastily arranged; the one carrying the canoe representing the aboriginal days, contained the lineal descendants of Shinnecock tribe of Indians in the children of Mr. and Mrs. Cassius Cuffee. But where all were so good it is hard and unfair to particularize.

The center of attraction and the principal event of the day was the unveiling of the monument. First the doxology was sung, the Rev. Mr. Newman taking the initiative. The Rev. Charles H. Gardiner delivered the invocation, after which the Rev. Mr. Newman made a strong address, which appealed to every descendant of the first settlers present and found a lodgment in the heart of every man and woman in the vast assembly who had a drop of red blood in their veins. Then, standing on the north and south sides of the draped monument, Theodore F. Haines, representing army veterans of 1861 and Albert E. Topping the navy veterans of that war, slowly raised Old Glory, which fluttered for a moment about the eagles outstretched wings, but caught by a puff of wind was blown straight out and so went upward to the mast head; revealing the granite memorial of Bridgehampton's glorious past in four epochs of its history. As the flag reached the top of the pole and the monument caught the light of the sun, Mr. Emil Twyeffort stepped forth and led in the hurrah which made the very welkin ring

and the ambient air echo the shout of the thousands who surrounded the Liberty Pole on the historical village green and extended beyond for hundreds of feet.

After the unveiling of the monument there were appropriate services on the lawn of the Presbyterian church. Addresses were made by Judge Henry P. Hedges, ninety-three years old, as clear minded as a man of thirty, and who has been prominently and actively identified with the old village all his life; Rev. Arthur T. Pierson, D.D. and Wm. S. Pelletreau, A.M. A beautiful poem written for the occasion by Miss Harriet Hunting Pierson,was read by G. Clarence Topping, chairman of the executive committee. It is to be regretted that owing to the delay in reassembling after the one o'clock recess the speakers in the afternoon were continually interrupted by the athletic sports, especially was this true with Mr Pelletreau. The very interesting historical address could hardly be heard by those seated immediately in front of him

The athletic meet was run off in accordance with the printed program and was enjoyed by the large concourse of people who witnessed it. The Bridgehampton boys easily defeated the Sag Harbor track team by a score of 50 to 38. The winners of the events were as follows: 100 yard Dash, Irving Marshall, first; C. A. Smith, second. Half Mile Run, Helleman, first; O'Brien, second. Running High Jump, Irving Marshall first: Ralph Sayre, second. 60 Yard Dash, E. Braem first; P. Garypie, second. Pole vault, W. Foster, first; George King, second. 220 Yard Dash, I. Marshall, first; T. O'Brien, second. Shot Put, H. Cooper, first; Courtney Rogers, second. Running Broad Jump, I. Marshall first; Ralph Sayre, second. Five Mile Bicycle Race, Lester A. Ray, first: William Mott, second. One Mile Bicycle Race, Vernon Shanahan, first; W.H. Topping second. Three Legged Race, King and Kiselyak first:

EIGHT LITTLE PURITANS

O'Brien and Beyer second.

The baseball game on the school diamond was started immediately after the races and was interesting throughout the nine innings, but was marred by catcher Nichols, of the Sag Harbor team, being hit in the stomach by a pitched ball. The score was 6-2 in favor of Bridgehampton.

The last of the day's events was the dance at the Hall in the evening. This, too, was an enjoyable affair and was enjoyed about as much by the wall flowers who filled to its capacity the stage as it was by those on the floor.

A remarkable note we have here to make. Although there were nearly five thousand people in the village on that day, there was not a single disorderly person seen on the streets and the policemen had nothing whatever to do except to keep the streets clear for the parade. We do not believe that this can be chronicled of another village where there has been such a cosmopolitan gathering.

The monument, which now has a permanent place on our village green and occupies the most sightly location the village authorities could give it, is four sided and bears the following inscriptions on heavy bronze tablets.

On the west:

1 9 1 0
The 2 5 0th
Anniversary
of the
Settlement
of
Bridgehampton
1 6 6 0

On the north:

To the memory of
The Patriotic Spirit
of the People
and
Sacrificing Service
of
Our Soldiers and Sailors
Who Preserved
The Nation
One Country
One Flag
1861

On the south:

Erected
July 4th, 1910
As a stone of
Witness and Appeal
By the Descendants
And Friends of
The Men and Women
Who Settled
In This Place
1776

On the east:

In
Commemoration
of
A Sturdy Ancestry
Who
Founded, Defended
Served and Uplifted
This Community
1812

THE MAYPOLE DANCE AT CHILDREN'S FETE

The conception of this monument was the Rev. Arthur Newman's and considering the success of its inception, progress, unveiling and satisfaction of the people of Bridgehampton he should not only be the happiest, but the proudest man in town. He deserves well of his constituents.

The exhibition of antiquated furniture, old silver, Indian relics, elegant and ancient lace, rare china, curious farming implements, hand made lace, etc, in the Ladies Parlors of the Presbyterian Church was very interesting and attractive and was visited by fifteen hundred people on Monday.

The wants of the inner man were abundantly and satisfactorily supplied by the ladies of the Hampton House (Mrs. John N Hedges and Frank E. Hopping) and the women of St. Ann's Episcopal Mission,

We have all heard of the men behind the guns who win our naval battles. Behind our big parade, the decorations, and the beautiful street conceit was C. Hampton Aldrich, whose ability and originality as a decorative artist is known far beyond the limits of our charming village.

The members of the Executive Committee were G. Clarence Topping, Edward Dickinson, Morgan Topping, William D. Halsey, C. Hampton Aldrich, Addison M. Cook and Charles S. Rose.

The Reception Committee were Henry N. Corwith, John White, Jr., Henry H. Chatfield, John E. Heartt, Emil Twyeffort, Dr. Silas R Corwith, Henry Haney, Morgan Topping, Edward Dickinson, Charles Rose and Leonard R. Aldrich.

The Reception Committee appointed by the Bridgehampton Board of Trade were: Leonard R. Aldrich, John E. Heartt, Dr. Silas R Corwith, R. J Hagerman, and J B. Brown

The Athletic Committee were: Charles Humblet, Jr.

Frank Sandford, John Fahy, Harold Hallock and Stephen Topping

The Press Committee was R. C. Hallock.

Among the members of the newspaper fraternity noted present were: John H. Hunt, of the Sag Harbor Express; John L. King, of the Hampton Chronicle; Marcus O. Hedges, of the Hempstead Inquirer; Foster Ware, of the Evening Post; Peter F. Hughes and Burton D Corwin, of the Sag Harbor News.

The Bridgehampton News proved the enterprise of its management by publishing a special edition of the News, containing an eight page account of the Celebration, profusely illustrated with half-tone engravings.

If the Story of the Celebration is in any way incomplete, it is not because we have not tried to make it complete, but because physical endurance has its limitations.

---

LAST WORDS

What precedes these last words of the "Story of the Celebration" is not to be considered in any light a history of Bridgehampton, for it is not that in any sense of the word We have simply put on paper our personal experience in Bridgehampton, which covers nearly fifty years of our life, but more especially the record of happenings as we saw them during Celebration week. We believe these should be recorded by some one and Mr. R. C. Hallock, the editor of the News, assigned us to the work. We want to say, however, right here, that the record of events in Bridgehampton also includes Sagaponack, Mecox, Hay Ground, and that portion of Wainscott lying this side of the East Hampton line, all outlying or borough settlements, as it were, of the village And in this celebration, which we all will remember with a throbbing heart, Saga-

ponack, Mecox, Hay Ground, Wainscott and Bridgehampton were one. They have celebrated as they have stood in all of the two hundred and fifty years since Josiah Stanborough built his log cabin near the banks of the Sagaponack Lake, one people, indivisible, having common foes and common friends, loyal to the core and faithful unto the end.

These last words of the Story of the Celebration are also to be taken as the preface to the sumptous volume which we have been called on to edit.

We love the old Bridgehampton, and we are looking forward to the new Bridgehampton, with straining eyes, hoping to see the set of the current and that it will turn into the same channels which our forebears made and the fruit of whose labors we are enjoying to-day,

The village of Bridgehampton of to-day will in the near future be the city of Bridgehampton, and there are those now living in our beautiful and healthful environment, who will see the dawning of the new dispensation and the consequent change of conditions. May God continue to bless Bridgehampton in the future years, as He has blessed it in the past two hundred and fifty years, and may it ever be a Christian city as it has ever been a Christian village!

We give first place in this volume to Miss Pierson's exquisite poem, "Our Heritage", because we believe it unquestionably entitled to that honor It's a poem that will live, and from which men and women in the future will get inspiration and be able to shape and found a city of God-fearing people.

The historical address of ex Judge Henry P Hedges is the ripe work of a man who at ninety-three years of age, is able to look clearly back into the past, and out of his knowledge of men and affairs to glean historical pabulum on which future generations of

scholars and statesmen may feed with profit and obtain intellectual results.

The historical papers of William S. Pelletreau, Charles H. Hildreth, A. M. Cook and J. L. Engle are a part of this generation's contribution, from the pens of these gentlemen, to the knowledge of generations to come of Bridgehampton and its borough settlements. They are readable to-day; they will be even more readable a century hence.

The addresses of the Rev. Arthur Newman, the Rev. Dr. L. Mason Clarke, the Rev. Dr. Henry T. Rose, and the Rev. Dr. Arthur Pierson contain strong appeals to the people of Bridgehampton of this day and the future, which, if answered in the proper spirit, will give an abundant harvest of righteous things now and as long as the old village or the new city has a place on this earth.

It has been our desire to make this volume of text and pictures a standard and reference work to be handed down to posterity for generations to come; to show to our children's children, and their descendants what Bridgehampton was in 1660 and 1910, that they might be governed in some measure at least, in the making of the newer Bridgehampton, by the pattern which we present to them in this "Story of a Celebration". The contents of and arrangement of papers in this little volume have this end in view.

As God has blessed Bridgehampton, so may He bless this book.

JOHN E. HEARTT

# ADDRESSES

## ADDRESS OF HENRY T. ROSE, D. D.

**Pastor of the First Church, of Christ, (Congregational,) of Northampton, Mass.**

One who looks over the level country surrounding the village might easily think himself in Holland From that land of rich acres and slow waters our fathers returned from their exile to the English shores. The little ship Speedwell brought them to the old port of Southampton, whose name they borrowed for their first settlement on Long Island. The American of straight descent from the founders is never a stranger in England. The very tones of the human voices one hears in these parts, the low, slow cadences, resemble what one hears in English rural counties.

The founders were people of the most distinct and striking characteristics, they were called Separatists, and were in point of fact unlike any members of the human race then alive. Their most essential attribute was religion and they were not moved by worldly or commercial reasons in their adventure. Theirs was a purely religious motive. Just before they sailed from Holland they observed a day of humiliation and prayer. The pastor, John Robinson, preached from the text in Ezra 8 21, which reads in the Geneva version, used by them: "And there at the river by Ahava I proclaimed a fast that we might humble ourselves before our God and seek of Him a right way for us and for all our children and for all our substance." This was the spirit which moved the Pilgrim Fathers, and this spirit they transmitted to their children with whom it has never ceased to be a controlling passion.

It is not difficult to trace the founding of the first settlement on Long Island back to this first colonization It took something like twenty years for the movement to reach these parts, where settlers began to make their homes about 1640. Settlements were made in procession along the New England shore until the mouth of the Connecticut river was reached.

There the current divides and while some of the adventurers moved up the river and founded what became flourishing cities, others turned to the South, crossed the sound and exploring Long Island found good and fruitful ground on the southern shore and there began their communities. They brought here the characters of the New England settlers. But these characters were in time greatly affected by the local conditions and the neighborhood of the sea. In early times all the New England people were farmers. But here the farmers were also watermen, fishermen, hunters, sailors and whalemen. It would be a very interesting undertaking to try to state the influence of the ocean in distinguishing the Long Island people from their brethren in New England. But the basis of manhood was the same, a high reverence for religion and great faith in God They were a serious people, with lofty ambitions. And there as here the nation grew "Strong thru shifts and wants and pains, abutted by these men with empires in their brains."

In religious matters the connection between these people and their brethren in New England was of the closest. When the church in Bridgehampton was organized in 1695, and fifteen acres of land was given by the town of Southampton to the new minister, the Rev. Ebenezer White was called as pastor. He was the son or grandson of an immigrant, Thomas White, whose birthplace in England, and whose age at coming are unknown, though he was a man of influence in the new settlement. He was a freeman, a churchmember, captain of the militia, and a member of the General Court.

Ebenezer White was born in Weymouth, Mass. He was a graduate of Harvard College in the year 1692, was ordained and installed here in 1695 and continued in his office fifty-three years, dying at the

age of eighty-four. A tradition of long pastorates has prevailed here. And in view of the names on the roll of ministers, the church should adopt as its colors, White, Brown and Gray.

Another incident connecting the church history of Long Island and New England is of special interest to me, who claims to be in the line of succession, as pastor of the church in Northampton, to Jonathan Edwards, evangelistic theologian, philosopher, and a mighty preacher. He was a friend of Dr. Buell, and probably made the longest journey of his life, when he came to Easthampton to preach his installation sermon. In that church also Dr. Lyman Beecher, famous on his own account, and as the father of ten children, was once the settled pastor. It was the day of strong country churches, our great cities being just at the beginning of their amazing growth.

To perpetuate the virtues of the fathers is far more difficult than on such a day of happy festival as this to commemorate their fame. They, could they return, would hardly believe this to be the same world they left. We would not restore their life if we could. But we may well celebrate their heroism, their simplicity, their courage and lofty faith The glory of children is their father's.

## Address of the Rev. L. Mason Clarke, D. D.

Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn

After congratulating the people of Bridgehampton and vicinity upon the happy consummation of their plans in commemoration of the founding and preservation of this ancient settlement, Mr. Clarke spoke of the significance of this four fold anniversary to religion and patriotism.

Referring to the four sides of the monument, each of which is devoted to the memory of a critical epoch in the history of the nation as well as of this community, the speaker alluded to the sacredness of the date, July 3rd, in connection with the three wars which are referred to on the monument. It was on this very day, and at this very hour of the day, when four score and seven years ago, there was enacted a scene, which in the pomp and circumstance of war, has never been equalled upon this western continent. The field was Gettysburg. At one o'clock on the afternoon of July 3rd, 120 cannon from Seminary Ridge began to thunder across the valley, at the Union troops on Cemetery Hill. Immediately these were answered by 100 guns from the Federal army and for two hours that dreadful heraldry of the succeeding carnage continued. There at three o'clock a line of gray drew out from that western ridge. General Pickett leading his wedge of 5000, supported by Hubb's division on the left; Wilcox on the right and in the face of as galling and decimating fire as war has ever known, the army of the south, like a sea of majestic power dashed through the Union lines and the stars and bars floated for a moment over the highest point of the Confederacy. It was as if a voice spoke out of heaven, as the Almighty once commanded the ocean "Thus far shalt thou come and no further and here shall thy proud waves be stayed."

This day speaks of Gettysburg with its 5,000 men killed in action and its 45,000 lost or wounded, dead or missing.

It also speaks of Vicksburg for it was on this day that Grant and Pemberton virtually fixed the terms of the formal surrender.

It furthermore has its message coming to us from the British war of 1812, for it was on this day, the battle was fought at Chippewa which broke the spell of English prestige and loosened the bond of English influence upon their Indian allies.

And we cannot forget that it was also on this day that in that far off Continental Congress the preliminaries were settled which have made the Fourth of July the nation's great day of rejoicing during 134 years of increasing splendor and strength.

This is a holy day indeed In the presence of such memories, gathered to commemorate the forces and sacrifices which have made us and kept us what we are. We may will ask ourselves, what we owe to the dear days gone and to the spirit of the Past.

Memories such as these inspire confidence for the future. Who can fail to ask what the future is to show? What will this town be like when 250 years more shall have passed away? We are on the verge of a new age. New wonders are waiting to leap out of the surrounding mystery and surprise the years that are just ahead.

But, "man shall not live by bread alone." Not by inventions are communities made strong and enduring. The age succeeding this will be very largely what we ourselves made it. Can we, shall we, transmit the character, devotion and patriotism which are commemorated upon yonder monument? Have we as good a faith as our fathers had? And by all the significance of this occasion, by the great crowd of wit-

nesses compassing us about, let us, young and old, be dedicated afresh to a patriotic faith and to the spirit of a triumphant religion, feeling our debt to the sacred past and determined to make the present equally sacred, till the war demon throbs no longer and the battle flags are furled in the parliament of man, the Federation of the world–till the New Jerusalem "comes down out of heaven from God."

## ADDRESS OF REV. ARTHUR NEWMAN

**Pastor Presbyterian Church, Bridgehampton, Long Island**

A party of Americans who were traveling in India visited one of the ancient Imperial palaces, and standing beneath the great dome they joined in singing the doxology. The silence that followed was broken by the mellow echo of their praise which fell from the mighty marble arch beneath which they stood. We, too, have just sung that doxology and we seem to hear echoing down to us the song of praise chanted around the throne by the men and women of faith, who once lived here and have gone home to glory.

A procession has just moved through our streets We feel that it was a natural expression of the thought uppermost in every heart to-day. For we are thinking of the procession of the generations; the onward and orderly movement of a community in its self development.

Yonder hills stand as a monument of the mighty forces of nature outworking through uncounted ages. Once a vast field of ice covered this Northern Continent. Steadily and slowly the glacial mass moved southward, and heeding at last the call of the sea, it united with the waters of the great deep. And the boulders and rocks gathered up and swept onward in the grasp of the glacier, leaving their deep graven mark, as they passed, on the rocky summits of the New England hills, were finally piled together in long forest-crowned ridges, a monument of this vast and age long movement.

From those New England hills this granite has been brought and set here, midway between the ocean and those monumental hills, on the bed of sand the waves smoothed, and over which nature with lavish hand, scattered the fertile soil which made this the garden spot our enterprising forefathers found,

1237220

and which has nourished and enriched their descendants and successors. Unlike those boulders yonder, these stones quarried and fashioned by human hands; transported by agencies which man devised and directed; carefully joined and carved; adorned with tablets and symbolisms of enduring bronze, stand as the witnesses of the vast and complex forces which enter into and dominate human life and society.

This is not the memorial of a unique event, nor of an outstanding individual pinnacled in genius and glory. It is a commemoration of what men sometimes call the commonplace. It stands here to emphasize the beauty and the value of ordinary and uneventful lives. It is in honoring remembrance of plain, practical people, steadfast, patient, loving and loyal who settled here; slowly broadened their tillable acres; lived in a simple way in simple homes; saw sons and daughters establish new households; welcomed neighbors of a kindred spirit, and thus grew into a community worthy representatives of that great middle class, industrious, independent, self respecting; from which our schools and colleges usually get their best students; the flag its staunchest defenders; the state its best citizens; the church its most reliable and enterprising adherents.

Sometimes from those hills we look down upon this plain as it broadens toward the sea and behold these homes where our interests and our activities center, and we see them in their relations to each other, and that vision of neighborliness is transfiguring. We realize then that it is a neighborhood. At this spot and under these circumstances we feel the continuity of the life of this people; our relation to those who have gone before us; whose names we bear, whose property we inherit; whose work we carry on, and whose aspirations at our best estate we

partially fulfill and realize. These ponderous monumental blocks rest upon the foundation we laid for them; deep bedded, cemented, foursquare and level. Upon the solid qualities; the foursquare rectitude, the level headedness, the granitelike steadfastness of old Bridgehampton rests the best that is here to-day.

Independence Day means much in this place. In 1776 and 1812 the citizens felt themselves one with the patriots of the time, under the pressure of a common necessity, and the inspiration of a common purpose. In 1861 the echo of the cannon shot at Sumter boomed among our people; stirred their hearts, and summoned our brave sons, in the spirit of their sires, to stand by patriots from near and far in the determination to save the imperilled flag. This monument, standing beneath the stars and stripes, enduringly testifies to the loyal and self sacrificing spirit of our people in the seven eventful and trying years when the flag was made; in the war waged by the next generation to keep it waving, and in those four long and awful years of civil strife, when patriots strove to keep every star in that field of blue.

As the particles of this granite slowly settled in the water, and the resultant mass put under tremendous pressure, was then fused into rock by terrific heat, so this slowly growing community, at these epochs, was solidified under the pressure of a great necessity, and fused by the fervor of a splendid enthusiasm.

Men are measured by the admirations and venerations which crystalize into character and control their lives. We erect this tribute in a solemn pride of ancestry while we cherish another thought. A century hence, five hundred years hereafter, when a thousand years have gone, this stone, mellowed by age, will stand here to witness also to what we men and women of to-day admire, venerate. and purpose

to make permanent and wide spread For crowning this granite pillar is the flag of our nation in time-defying bronze. We would have that significant emblem of liberty and union uplifted ever among a responsive people who shall see our cherished vision more and more realized, as the principles that banner stands for, carried by the swift winged spirit of freedom, girdle and transform the globe

This is more than a monument to the departed. It is not set here merely to mark the culmination of an epoch. We are thinking of it also as a milestone in the progress of our town One chapter of our history is closed, but many chapters are yet to be written and these will chronicle varied and marvelous changes and development here, which no one among, us is far sighted enough to forecast. Centuries hence boys and girls will play about this monument; youths and maidens will study these inscriptions and sculptured emblems; men and women will pause and ponder the record this granite commemorates. It is our hope, it is our prayer, it is our belief, that this memorial shall ever stand central and commanding among our people, a pillar of pride, and a heeded summons to high and noble endeavor.

## ADDRESS OF HON. HENRY P. HEDGES

On the first page of the first volume of the records of the town of Southampton is recorded a paper entitled "The Disposal of the Vessel." It is dated March 10, 1639, was signed by twelve men called therein "Undertakers," who afterwards admitted eight others associates and signers. The vessel was a sloop costing eighty pounds and was owned in shares and bought by the signers for the use of a plantation, and by them sold to Daniel Howe its captain and one of their company, who agreed not to sell it without consent of a majority of the company. These men were Freeholders, resident in Lynn, Massachusetts. This paper stated that the vessel was to go on an "expedition to settle a plantation to be owned in shares like the vessel," and was to be ready at Lynn three times each year in the first, fourth and eighth month to take passengers and transport freight, a half ton for each undertaker free to the plantation. Rules for owning and governing the plantation were prescribed. The establishment of a church there was looked for. The document has marks of profound thought and wide experience worthy of the founders of a commonwealth, and of a place as a statesmanlike paper. In prospective Southampton thus began and by men who were in dead earnest. As we proceed it must be remembered that this was in the time of old style the year beginning March 25. As agent for the Earl of Sterling James Farrett, by patent dated April 17, 1640, conveyed to Daniel Howe, Job Sayre, George Wilbe and William Harker and their associates, the right "to sitt down upon Long Island aforesaid, there to possess, improve and enjoy, eight miles square of land, or as much as shall contain the said quantity." "And they are to take their choice to sit down upon as best suiteth them" The quit rent was to be fixed by John Win-

OLD SLEIGH USED IN BRIDGEHAMPTON IN 1660

throp, and the inhabitants at their leisure were required to purchase of the Indians having "lawful right" to said land (see Southampton Town Records Vol 1 p 9.)

This paper was signed and sealed by Farrett as a deed, was witnessed by Theophilus Eaton, governor of New Haven, and John Davenport, minister there, and therefore we know that it was executed there and that the authorities there knew its contents and that it was a deed in terms covering "all Long Island" and so covering that it denied and barred any claim these authorities had to any part of Long Island or to Southold recognized by them. Not only did they recognize it as a deed but John Winthrop who by indorsement thereto fixed the amount of quit rent to be paid to the Earl of Sterling, understood that to be the deed of the coming settlements. The location could be fixed by verbal agreement and then the deed without an writing or with it was by a flash of lightning conveyed the premises located. By another record it will appear that an expedition to settle a plantation on Long Island had started from Lynn, obtained this deed from Farrett at New Haven and gone to Cow Bay or near there in Queens County and been expelled therefrom, in an attempt to make a settlement, by the Dutch authorities.

## The Expedition to Settle a Plantation

In the yacht Prince William with a party of 25 Dutch soldiers under orders from the Dutch Governor at Fort Amsterdam, these six men were arrested viz: Job Sayre, George Wilbe, John Farrington, Philip and Nathaniel Kirtland and Willlam Harker. All signers of and named among the undertakers. All owners of land in Lynn, and taken as prisoners to Fort Amsterdam. On examination they testified in substance that Howe and Farrett cut down the arms

of the state and that these two had gone with the sloop that landed them (at Cow Bay) to Red Hill, meaning New Haven, with their commission, meaning probably their conveyance of land. That they left, on their arrest, two men, a woman and child to take care of their goods. That they "had built a small house and were building another not finished." That they came "to plant and build dwellings." That "it was intended that 20 families should come and if the land was good they expected a great many people." These men were arrested May 15, 1640, and discharged May 19, 1640, these being the Dutch dates. The English dates are 1639 and are wrong as we know, because this discharge was on Saturday, May 19, and May 19, 1639 was Thursday. Like errors occur often in transcribing records before and even after the adoption of the new style in 1652 These men were not discharged until they had signed a paper stating their coming to settle on the "Territory of the States General without knowing the same, being deceived by Mr. Farrett, Scotchman," and a promise "to remove from the territory immediately" vid. Colonial Hist. of N. Y. Vol. 2 p. 146 etc. These argonauts of Southampton thus deceived and betrayed, arrested and released, forerunners of the company who were to occupy by settlement the ground which they had prepared, were proceeding under authority procured from the agent and attorney of the Earl of Sterling. After the signing of this paper we trace their expedition by means of another paper dated June 12, 1639, meaning 1640, by which Farrett conveyed to Edward Howell, Daniel Howe, Job Sayre, and their associates all land "lying and being bounded between Peaconneck and the Easternmost Point of Long Island with the whole breadth of said Island from sea to sea with all land and premises contained in said limits, except

RED MEN'S ABORIGINAL FLOAT, SHOWING PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF TRIBE OF SHINNECOCK

those lands already granted by me to any person * * * "in consideration of a barge line, besides they being drove off by the Dutch from the place where they were by me planted, to their great damage, and with a competent sum of money in hand paid before the ensealing and delivery of these presents, all amounting to four hundred pounds sterling." Peconic was an Indian settlement at the head of Peconic Bay. The Lynn Company now could locate on any point of all eastern Long Island, excepting only where Farrett had previously conveyed "to any person." Farrett by agreement with the Earl of Sterling had a right to choose 12,000 acres as compensation for his services as agent, and had chosen Robbins Island and Shelter Island. It is claimed that he had conveyed by deed dated August 15, 1640, 150 acres to a Richard Jackson, carpenter, who built a house thereon in Southold and afterward sold to Witherby or Wetherby, who on October 22, 1640, sold the same to Stephen Goodyear of New Haven. Vid. Address C. B. Moore at Southold celebration in August 1890 p 127.

It is also claimed that Matthew Sunderland or Suiderland had leased or obtained right to land in the territory of Southold from Farrett. There is no evidence that these persons were preparing to found a town and much to negative such a supposition. *

We can further trace this expedition to settle Southampton by an instrument dated July 7, 1639, meaning 1640, by which the eight miles square were located by boundaries on the west at a place entitled the name of the place "where the Indians draw over their canoes, out of the North Bay over to the south side of the Island," (being Canoe Place) and on the east "to the easterly end of an island or neck of land over against the island known as Mr. Farrett's Island" being Shelter Island. *

This instrument was signed by Farrett and conveyed to Edward Howell, John Gosmer, Edmund Farrington, Daniel Howe, Thomas Halsey, Edward Needham, Allen Breed, Thomas Sayre, Henry Walton, George Wells or Welby, Wm. Harker and Job Sayre. August 20, 1640, the Earl of Sterling confirmed this instrument of July 7, 1640.

The instrument of July 7, was witnessed by Thomas Dexter and Richard Walker, both of Lynn, and large land owners there. Dexter was the first purchaser of the famed Nahant. That proves that the instrument was executed at Lynn and that the expedition to locate a plantation had, previous to that, examined the territory between Canoe Place and the eastern bounds of Southampton, and north and south "from sea to sea" and decided on that as a settlement, and more, they had arranged for the purchase of the territory from the Indians and probably made the first payment to them of 16 coats, named in their deed of December 13, 1640, of the First Town Purchase and had done all this before a messenger could start from Southampton to carry the news to Lynn and thereafter get this document drawn and executed. From June 12th to July 7th is only 25 days in which the territory must be explored by land and sea, bounds fixed, the result reported by voyage to Lynn, and all this, if the parties were on the ground doing it, would require as much as 25 days, and probably more, proving that this expedition must have been in Southampton by, if not before, June 12th as tradition reports. The option covered the whole breadth of the Island from "sea to sea" and excluded the settlement of any other town. Southold claims priority of settlement on these grounds: 1 Southold is older by purchase of the Indians; 2 by renting, purchase and improvement of lands; 3 by union in

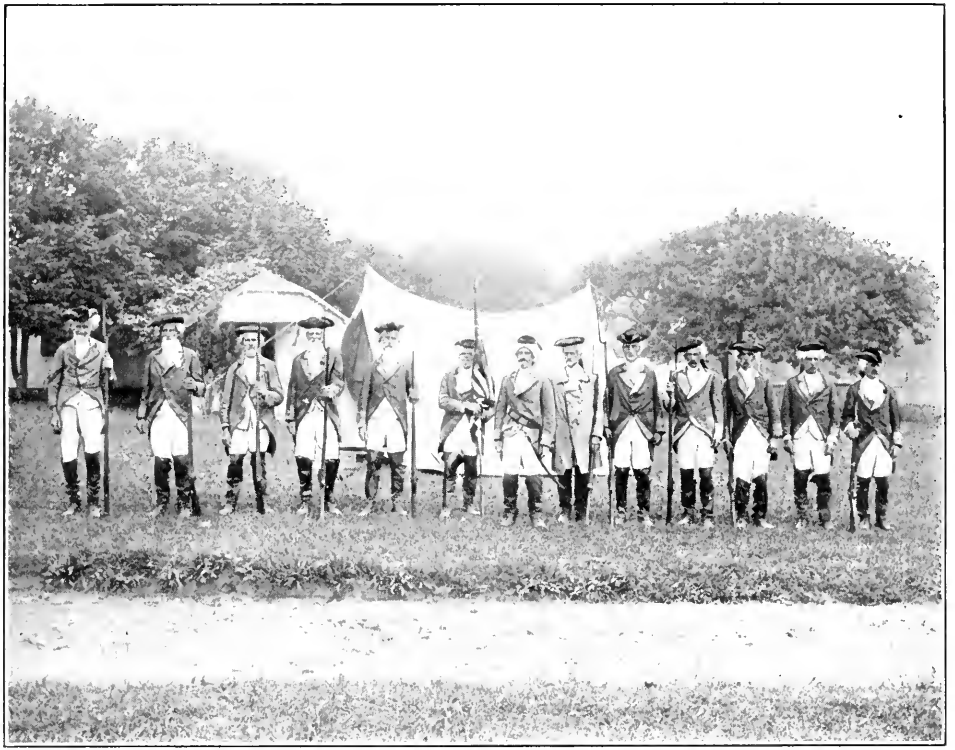
civic government; 4 by its organized church. (See Whitaker's History of Southold page 41)

It is claimed that on the 18th of June 1639, Matthew Sunderland leased of James Farrett lands in the town of Southold and on September 4, 1639, took a receipt for rent paid thereon; a second time September 9, 1640. See Whitaker's History of Southold, p 36. The Southold records show receipts for rent of land at Cow Bay but none for land in Southold. If it were proved that Jackson and Sunderland made individual settlements,Southold would and does thereby defeat her own claim to priority because Lyon Gardiner's Indian deed is dated May 30, 1639. (See Letchford's note book p 129) And he came to his Island before any other Englishman settled on Long Island. That would give priority to the town of East Hampton wherein lies Gardiner's Island. September 20, 1640, Sunderland's bill of exchange to Thomas Robinson states his residence as at New Port, Rhode Island. (See Letchford's note book p 283) There is no evidence that Sunderland or Jackson ever settled or designed to settle and found a town in Southold or that they were looking after any interest except their own as individuals. Nothing appears showing that they resided there but much that their residence was elsewhere.

The Southold claimant still says: you have not proved and cannot prove that this expedition expelled from Cow Bay went to Southampton and there founded that town. I answer: They were sent for that purpose and must be presumed to have performed that duty, until some evidence is shown overcoming that presumption of which there is none. Roger M. Sherman son of the famous Roger of Connecticut, it is said, prosecuted an offender who pleaded "not guilty." And Roger said to the rural court. "He has

pleaded "not guilty" now let him prove it, and had the court with him. If Southampton's case is to be so tried, remember every motive, selfish and unselfish impelled these men to pursue the purpose of the expedition. To build houses and plant corn and prepare to feed and shelter the coming copartners, wives and children in the next winter and who actually did come with, so far as appears, no complaint of neglect against their preceding associates. Had there been such base default of duty the whole country would have rung with clamorous condemnation of their crime to their shame and lasting contempt. Southampton cannot permit her founders to suffer so unjustly.

Southampton is the first town on these grounds: 1 Its founders bought the vessel for the use of the Plantation by Englishmen. 2 It formed the first constitution for settling and governing such a town on Long Island. 3 It made the first exploration to examine and locate a town eight miles square or its equivalent thereon 4 It has the first deed for the English title to a territory large enough to form a town there. 5 Even after the expulsion at Cow Bay, that deed of option for the eight miles excluded any other purchase prior thereto on all eastern Long Island in the territory of Southold. 6 It expended the sum of 400 pounds sterling in establishing a town before any other founders of an Engiish town, so far as appears, spent a cent. 7 It located the eight miles square and had a company formed to settle on it and at work planting and building houses thereon, real settlers, before any other town there. Its records show that it governed itself internally as a town from the start and independent of any other colony in the choice of its officers and magistrates and making of laws, and are the earliest town records by years to be found in any English town on Long Island. It is



THE CONTINENTAL CONTINGENT WITH FLINT-LOCK MUSKETS

worthy of the name of such a town by the disasters and expulsion of its founders, by their vast expenditure of treasure, toil, hardship and all its long and glorious history.

John Winthrop, Governor of Massachussets, residing at Boston near Lynn, was known by all the Lynn parties who trusted him and well knew them. As a witness his testimony would be reliable. In his journal under date 1640, 4th month he records notice of this expedition expelled by the Dutch and states: "Upon this the Lynn men finding themselves too weak and having no encouragement to expect aid from the English deserted that place and took another at the eastern end of the same island and being now abont forty families they proceeded in their plantation." Remember "this expedition of Lynn men" expelled "took another place at the east end of the same island" Can any record coeval more clearly prove the expedition went to Southampton? Winthrop's endorsement of the quit rent to be paid to the Earl of Sterling on the option deed of April 17, 1640, proves that the parties thereto understood that to be the deed relied on.

Many years ago I thoroughly examined this question and arrived at the conclusion since held, that Southampton was the first English town settled on Long Island.

George R. Howell was of the same opinion. See his pamphlet on that subject pnblished in 1882, and his history of Southampton published in 1887.

Wm. Wallace Tooker is of the same opinion. See his article published in the Sag Harbor Express April 2, 1893.

William S. Pelletreau is of the same opinion. These three eminent antiquarians after exhaustive examination all concur in this conclusion.

In an address I delivered before the Suffolk Coun-

ty Historical Society in October 1889, and in another address in 1890, at the 250th anniversary of the Town of Southampton, I advanced the same conclusion. The Southold celebration in August 1890 was a memorable event and at its meeting on the second day of the celebration the Hon. James H. Tuthill presided. He was presiding and present at the delivery of the address first named and present at the Southampton celebration next named, and at the Southold celebration in introducing me as speaker said, as recorded in printed proceedings p 93: "The next speaker represents the town of Southampton which has about as much history as we have with five minutes more or less." *

## The Indian Title

By deed dated December 13th, 1640 the Shinnecock Indians conveyed to the Undertakers that part of Southampton, extending from Canoe Place, East; to the West bounds of the town of Easthampton, in consideration of "Sixteen coats already received and also four score bushels of Indian corn to be paid upon lawful demand by the last of September 1641, and upon further consideration. "that the said English shall defend us, the said Indians, from the unjust violence of any Indians that shall illegally assail us."

By deed dated August 16th 1703, the Indians conveyed to the trustees of the town of Southampton, in consideration of 20 pounds, the territory of Southampton which they had before sold and conveyed to them or others and the town paid them twice for the same land.

The first deed was witnessed by Abraham Pierson, minister and father of that Abraham who became the first President of Yale College, and also by six

FLOATS SHOWING SPINNING WHEELS AND WHIPPING POST

other men. The second deed was signed by 3 sachems and 32 other Indians and acknowledged before Justice John Wheeler of Easthampton. The names of Pierson and Wheeler are proof that these deeds were fairly obtained without fraud.

From the founding of the town of Southampton to this day in their relations and business with the Indians, no blot mars the banner of Southampton. In a recent romance entitled "Lords of the Soil," the founders of the towns on Eastern Long Island are represented as obtaining conveyances of their land from the Indians by the use of strong drink called "fire water." This is not only romance; it is utterly false, and disproved by the facts. Southampton at the first besought by the Indians, agreed to defend them from the illegal assaults of hostile Indians and kept her covenant East Hampton sheltered the Montauk remnant saved from almost entire extermination by the Narraghansets. But for the humanity of the Eastern towns the Naraghansetts would have annihilated all the Indian tribes on Eastern Long Island. Even now the Shinnecock tribe occupy their Neck, worth a thousand times more than when the English began to clear the forest. The State has often made appropriations to maintain a school there and the tribe besought the Presbytery of Long Island for aid and rests under its sheltering wing. Give old Southampton her due—she asks no more.

## The United Colonies Of New England

May 29th 1643 the colonies of Massachusetts, Plymouth, Conneticut and New Haven with the plantations in combination with them adopted Articles of Confederation for their mutual welfare and protection This Confederation was called "The United Colo-

nies of New England." May 30th 1645, the town of Southampton was received in combination with the colony of Connecticut and thereby this town came in combination with the four "United Colonies of New England" and bound for their defence and they in like manner bound for her defence. The colony of Connecticut admitted to vote those outside of the Church and New Haven excluded all from voting not within the church. The Rev. Abraham Pierson their minister desired to combine with New Haven and because the majority decided for Connecticut he with many others removed from Southampton. Largeness and llberality of soul cost Southampton much in her earliest days in the loss of their first minister, a man of towering ability and pure spirit and has in all her history cost much. She was, thank God, guilty of thinking ahead of her age.

## The English Title

England conquered and absorbed the Dutch settlements in the province of New York in 1664. The Duke of York then claimed title to all Long Island and by his Governor Nichols demanded that all the Eastern towns take title by patent forthwith from him or they would be deemed to have forfeited their rights to their land and dealt with as tresspassers. Protest was disregarded, resistance hopeless. At great expense the town obtained a new patent and paid quit rent to this new claimant and extortioner, which was for the second time a payment to purchase the English title In 1675 another English Governor even more unprincipled and ra--pacious than the first, contended that Nichols patent did not cover the town territory and again for the third time they paid for another patent from Governor Andross. Still unsatisfied another Governor,

made under like pretences a demand and they obtained from Governor Dougan a patent dated December 6th 1886, which was the fourth purchase and payment for their title to the towns territory. By their conduct Kings forfeited the regard and respect of our forefathers. Their contempt we inherit.

## The Town Self-Governed 1640-1664.

From the settlement of the town in 1640 to the conquest of New York from the Dutch by the English in 1664; almost a generation had gone. The founders born in old England, emigrating from New England, bound to her by ties of kindred, blood and purpose, allied for mutual defence, alike in spiritual vision, alike in aspiration for liberty; alike as pioneers in enterprise and daring; alike in the power and practice of self Government, were to all intents a part of New England. Severed therefrom they yearned for the old union and associations in vain. They hated to become vassals of the Duke of York and from 1664 to 1775, for a hundred years on their altar the fire of freedom burned unquenched. In that long conflict Bridgehampton nobly bore her part. The champions of liberty and people's rights in no part of this town or county maintained their cause more heroically than the sons of Bridgehampton. The Piersons, Henry, the speaker of Assembly, and his son David, member of Assembly, sturdily stood for popular rights against the arbitrary and oppressive claims of the royal governors, and that for nearly twenty years. No honor of knighthood; no embellishment of armorial bearings can worthily tell the story of their high souled devoted patriotism.

## The Territory of Bridge Hampton

From the flag staff to the Water Mill, the west bounds of Bridgehampton, is a little over three and

a half miles and to its east bounds is a little short of two and a half miles, from the ocean to the middle line, probably its proper north line, is say four and a half miles and its whole area is about 27 square miles. The forest covers about four and a half square miles, the waters about two and a half square miles. Mecox Bay is estimated at 1,200 acres, Mill Pond at 60, Kelly's pond at 40, Sagg pond at 100. This is the judgment of a practical surveyor and the estimate of water in Mecox Bay assigned to Bridgehampton seems large. Still deducting all waters and forest it leaves for Bridgehampton's cultivated area 15 square miles and 9,600 acres of fertile land rarely excelled. A magnificent heritage bequeathed by the foresight of the founders of the town and village to their sons. Kelly's pond and Mill pond are like emerald gems set in her crown. The expanse of bay of living waters, Mill creek, Hay Ground creek, Swan and Sams creek reach their arms far inland. And farther yet Sagg and Poxabogue and Crooked pond with gushing springs and pure streams revive life in forest and fertile field, contribute that moisture to the clouds that drop fatness. The waters are growing less and the land increasing. Hacker's Hole is plowed and gone. The potash is lessening. I think the dry land may equal 10,000 acres. More than all the enchantment of ocean inspired to greatness of soul, largeness of thought, pureness of purpose and spiritual ideals. Its magnitude spoke to the onlooker of his weakness. Its roar of wrath upbraided mans presumption. Its low dirge moan warned the wicked to forsake his way, measureless, mysterious, mighty ocean, it spoke to our fathers as it speaks to us in notes impressive and unforgotten. Its breeze was reviving, its charm enduring. Its presence in all ages begot in the dwellers on its shores adventurous endeavor and enterprise The Greek felt

its impelling power and for a thousand years held the sway of empire. The Roman heard and answered to its call and held in his compelling hand the destiny of far reaching domains. The British Isles had but just gained supremacy on the ocean when our forefathers founded Southampton. Their descendants in all generations living on its shores, have moved to the music of its majestic and mysterious call.

## Sagaponack Allotted

The first land allotted in Sagaponack was in 1653, and was all south of Bridge Lane and Daniels Lane* This laying out covered nearly all the land from the East Hampton bounds to Sagg pond, and the fact that no mention is made of any resident, any dwelling house or any individual land within the bounds creates a presumption that there was none and negatives the theory that there was then any settlement. The first houses were on Bridge Lane and a wigwam and whaling station, probably near the east bounds of the allotment and possibly another near to Sagaponack may have been there. (see town records vol. 1 p. 98) Even the dwelling of Josiah Stanbrough there in 1661, may have been a temporary rent. All the records fail to prove a settlement until about 1660 and even then that of Stanbrough only. The land would be improved at first for pasture and the whaling stations first occupied would soon call for permanent residents and thus the settlements would grow. In my early days at the whaling station was a wigwam with boats near by and a stage pole raised high on which when a whale was sighted the watchman climbed and made a weft, swinging his jacket to call the crew to the shore and man the boats. * As early as 1671 Indians agree to whale at Sagaponack for Anthony Ludlam and Arthur Howell, showing there then two whaling stations. (See T R. p. 57 Vol. 2.

## Mecox and Sagaponack Grow

We know with little certainty the progress of settlement of the neighbors of Sagaponack and Mecox. The territory near the ocean was first cleared of the forest and the fields in its vicinity tilled and dwellings there reared. The location of the first church built about 1696, near the west side of Sagaponack pond would probably be north of the then center of population to allow for the coming growth of the people. The site of the second church just east of the Esterbrook corner in 1737, would for the same reason be north of the like center. In 1842 when the present church was built the forest had been practically cleared and the clearing work closed and that site would be near the center geographically,as it is,and also of the population These three churches stand nearly three quarters of a mile northwesterly of each other and so standing mark the divergence of the centers of Bridgehampton

In 1686 the census of Southampton town shows the inhabitants to be christian males 389, negro men slaves 40, christian females 349, women slaves 46, total 738, Indians 153.

Howells history p. 31, states that all after No 270, were inhabitants of Sagabonac and Mecox which I think is correct, and if so Bridgehampton then numbered 119 males and 103 females. Total of the two is white inhabitants 222, being a little over one-third of all in the town. There were reported two merchants and 76 soldiers and troopers in the to wn.

July 4, 1776 John Gelston made affidavit to a census of the people east of the Water Mill and reported it to be; males 687, females 745, total 1,432. Deducting Noyac, Sag Harbor and North Haven' estimated at 212, leaves for Bridgehampton 1,220.

July 22, 1776, Hugh Gelston reported west of the

Water Mill, total inhabitants 1,349, making for the whole town 1,781. That would give east of the Water Mill over that west thereof 83. In 1790 this towns population was 3,408, and was the largest in Suffolk County. In 1870 the census of this town was 6,135. That of Bridgehampton then was 1,334, that of Southampton village 943, Shinnecock, 97, Sag Harbor 1,723 The census of 1910 reports the inhabitants of the town of Southampton at 11,240.

## Seating the Church and Tax to Maintain It

The church societies in eastern Long Island were organized as congregational churches, after the New England model. The salary of the minister was paid by tax assessed, levied and collected as the town taxes were and if unpaid the chattels of the delinquent might be distrained and sold by the collector to pay the rate. The pews were free except that men were appointed to seat the attendants according to age, social or official position. The pulpit was raised at least as high as on a level with the gallery, and entered by stairs leading to it, over it was the sounding board and underneath and in the rear of the sacrament table sat the elders and deacons. In front of the table overlooking the congregation sat the magistrates. The men were seated on one side of the church and the women on the other side, the wives ranking as their husbands and the elders in the front seats, and so on down to the youngest. Even in my early days the salary was collected and paid as stated, and for over a hundred years the seats were free. In Bridgehampton church when the pews were sold to pay the ministers salary there was much opposition. One man declared he would not again go in that church and there is a tradition that he never did.

## Whaling

In 1700 the founders of the town had died. Henry Pierson was living at Sagg with five sons: David, Theophilus, John and Abraham and Josiah, two minors. Capt. Elnathan Topping was there with sons Elnathan, Steven and Sylvanus, Abraham Howell, also, brother in law of Henry Pierson. Theophilus Howell was there, a man of ability, often supervisor of the town. In Mecox was Anthony Ludlow and his son, Anthony, John Cook, son of Ellis, Lemuel and Elisha, sons of Arthur Howell, Abraham, son of Abraham Howell, Doctor Theophilus, son of Major John Howell. In each of these two places two whale boat crews could muster. And Indians often formed part of such crews. They were self-possessed and efficient and would go down fighting. Canoes first used in whaling had been superseded by the evolution of the whale boat, which was sharp at each end to override the breaking waves, lower mid ships to bring the oar near the water and as a model for a sea boat unexcelled. Six men manned the boat. The harpooner was foremost The captain steered until the whale was struck and then he took the harpooners place to kill the whale and the harpooner steered. In my early manhood, the wigwams were standing on the beach banks in Amagansett, East Hampton and Wainscott and probably in Sagg and Mecox, in which watch was kept looking out for a whale. When one was sighted, the watch mounted the stage pole, swinging his coat as a signal and made what was called a "weft", to call the crew to man the boats. If the whale came nearer, he wefted harder. The alarm went like the cry of fire. All were excited, even school was let out. It is no vain imagination to suppose that in 1700, a whale was sighted off Sagaponack and chased by all the four boats of that and

UNVEILING OF THE MONUMENT--REV. MR. NEWMAN DELIVERING THE ADDRESS

the Mecox station, that the Indian harpooner in Capt Theophilus Howell's boat made fast to the whale and the Captain killed it after a long and bloody fight and all the four boats joined and towed the whale to the Sagaponack shore. We know that a whale was killed by that Captain and towed on that shore about that date. That whale had a memorable and a lasting history, which we now relate. In the night, a strong easterly wind and tide floated the whale some forty miles west, and by request of Theophilus Howell, owner, who had killed the whale and had a license from the Governor therefor, he to pay the twentieth part, Richard Floyd and his two sons cut up and tried out into oil, the blubber and were prosecuted for the tax on the whale. Nine men were subpoened as witnesses to go to New York to testify against him and among others, Samuel Mulford and his two sons, most of whom knew nothing of the case. Great expense needlessly made to innocent parties and the willful extortion of fees exacted that would be a shame, even in the most shameless days of modern corruption. Mulford was the man who went to England from East Hampton and temporarily obtained from the King freedom for whalers from the imposition of the tax on oil. A tax on an enterprise that should never be exacted because it took from the ocean the wealth there hidden, increased that of the community, and benefitted all and injured none. In equity a premium instead of a tax would be well merited. The reader will find the whole story told in the Documentary History of New York. Vol 2 pages 376 and on.

## Bridgehampton Goes for Independence

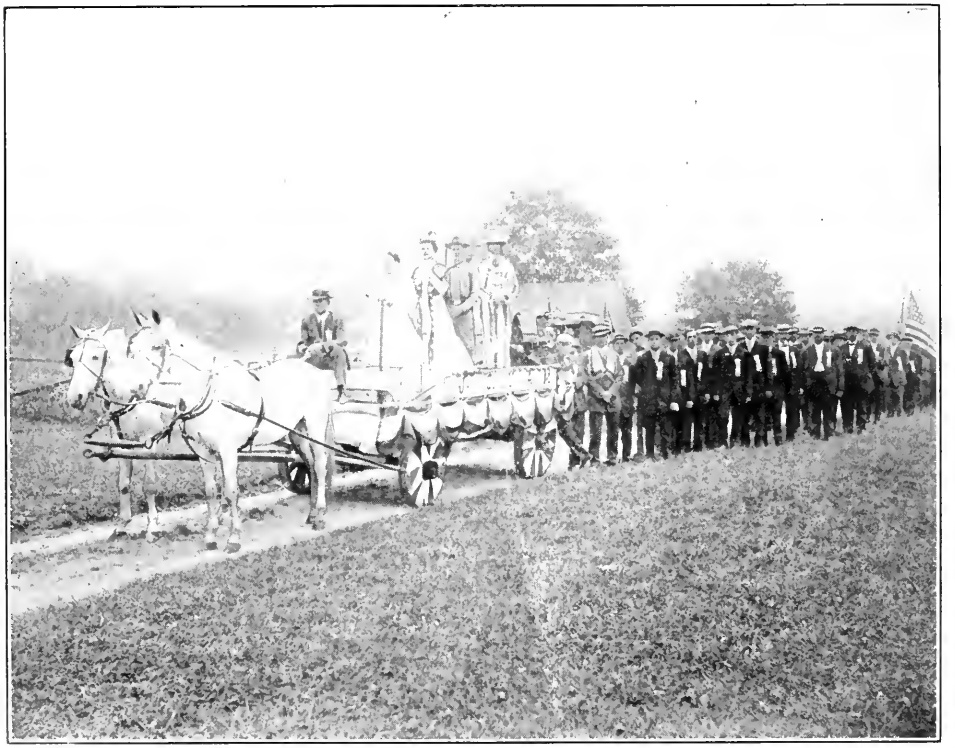
For twenty years Henry Pierson and David his son in the Assembly of Colonial New York contended for

the rights of the people in a representative Legislature free from arbitrary power of despotic unprincipled royal governors. For twenty years Samuel Mulford consecutively fought the same glorious battle, Eastern Long Island was true from first to last in contention for popular rights. The heroes of liberty there mustered were outspoken and true in all the Colonial history of New York. Suffolk County counted as preeminently the star of Freedom, in every age from its first settlement up to the Revolution and was among the first to proclaim for independence in 1776. The training of her sons impelled to enlist for the great declaration and one of them was its signer. No descendant of Suffolk County ancestry need fear for her record or her fame in her colonial or revolutionary days.

## Bridgehampton in the Revolution

The causes that impelled the colonies to confederation and revolution are recorded in the great declaration and in history. Long Island had grievances long suffered and unfelt by inhabitants of the interior. The imposition of a tax on oil oppressed her whaling industry.

The Press Gang roved through her territory and compelled her young sailor men to serve in the British Navy just as it impressed men in the British Isles. It tore them from peaceful homes and dependent families and without preparation or warning took them on long voyages in armed vessels to far off lands. When a battle ship appeared on our coast, it spread terror to our homes, young men fled to the woods to escape impressment. More fuel fed the fires of freedom on eastern Long Island than in most other localities on this continent. In Southampton every man capable of bearing arms and between the age of 16 and 60



JUNIOR O. U. A. M. AND FLOAT TYPIFYING COLUMBIA AND UNCLE SAM

signed the "Association" document to resist the British, dated April 25, 1775. No Torys name dishonors the record of Bridgehampton. From first to last in the great Revolution, her heart beat time to liberty and her voice was the re-echo of Lexington and Bunker Hill.

The second regiment of Suffolk County, February 10, 1776 consisted of 760 officers and privates of whom East Hampton furnished two companies, Bridgehampton and Sag Harbor jointly two, and Southampton three. I think Bridgehampton furnished at least the equivalent of three and probably more. The census of 1776 so indicates (see Howells History of Southampton, p. 68–9). The organization of the militia changed so often it is hard to trace it. August 21, 1775, the 2nd battalion of Suffolk at the east had these officers (as given by Onderdonk p. 20): David Mulford 1st Col , Jonathan Hedges 2nd Col., Uriah Rogers 1st Major, George Herrick 2nd Major, John Gelston Adj., Phineas Howell 2nd Adj. The officers of the Bridgehampton companies were:3d Co. Capt.,David Pierson; 1st Lieut., Daniel Hedges; 2nd Lieut., David Sayre; En., Theophilus Pierson. 9th Co. Capt., John Sandford; 1st Lieut., Edward Topping; 2nd Lieut. Philip Howell; En., John Hildreth. 6th Co., partly Bridgehampton, Capt , Wm. Rogers; 1st Lieut., Jesse Halsey; 2nd Lieut., Henry Halsey; En., Nathan Rogers The minute men were selected out of the militia to be ready to march immediately on orders and the artillery company were selected in the same way and both armed, organized and officered. Capt. David Pierson's company in Col. Josiah Smith's regiment numbered 11 officers and 42 privates (see Onderdonk p. 26 ) At a later date, probably just before the battle of Long Island,Col. Josiah Smith's regiment was reconstructed and out of twelve companies the officers were Capt.

Zephaniah Rogers; 1st Lieut., Edward Topping; 2nd Lieut., Paul Jones; Sergts., Hugh Gelston, Tim Halsey David Lupton; Corporals, Jehial Howell, Jonah Cook. Formerly I believed Col. Josiah Smith's regiment was not in the battle of Long Island. Later investigation shows that it was engaged therein. After the battle of Long Island which occurred August 27, 1776, the whole Island was subject to British control under martial law, executed by an infuriated soldiery of an obstinate and then insane King. For over seven years, practically abandoned by their countrymen, they were insulted, robbed, swindled, plundered, cheated, assaulted and beaten by irresponsible victors. *

Their sons had fled to the continent. The aged, infirm, sick, immature, defenceless and unprotected remained. A high souled race will dare to resist wrong if hope of success, however desperate, lights the way. That hope gone and nothing but abject submission left, the strongest spirit can only suffer and that suffering is the bitterest trial. A historian of Long Island (Prime p 63 quoting Wood) writes of the British exactions: "They compelled them to do all kinds of personal services, to work at their forts, to go with teams on foraging parties, and to transport their cannon, ammunition, provision and baggage from place to place as they changed their quarters and to go and come on the order of every petty officer who had charge of the most trifling business." * * * The people "had no property they could call their own of a movable kind. The officers seized and occupied the best rooms in the houses of the inhabitants. They compelled them to furnish blankets and fuel for the soldiers and hay and grain for their horses. They took away their cattle, sheep, hogs and poultry and seized without ceremony and without compensation whatever they desired to gratify their wishes." Very

large quantities of produce, hay and grain taken by the British, they gave their promise would be paid for at headquarters in New York city and the claims, therefore were sent there in expectation of payment, and payment was delayed until November 25, 1783 when New York City was evacuated and the British fleet sailed with bills never paid.

By an act of the legislature of the State of New York passed May 6, 1784, a tax of $100,000 was imposed on the Southern district and $37,000 of which was assigned to Long Island as a compensation to the other parts of the state for not having been in a condition to take an active part in the war against the enemy. What had been their misfortune was interpreted as a crime. It is difficult to find in the whole course of human legislation a grosser violation of public law and inevitable principles of justice.

## The War Of 1812

The British fleet in Gardiners Bay blocked the entrance to Long Island Sound, as in the Revolution. The garrison at Sag Harbor took many men from Bridgehampton. When news came that the British fleet was in Gardiner's Bay Gen. Abraham Rose requested those assembled for worship on the Sabbath to remain after service, and from the church door addressed them urging that they volunteer in defence of their country to which the patriotic response was unanimous. In that garrison from here were Captain David Hedges, Levi Howell and a commission and both were afterwards colonels. Rufus Rose was surgeon, Wm. L. Jones, musician, Jared Hedges a soldier, Rodney Parker a privateersman. Ellis Squires, Elisha Halsey and David Topping are reported as in the garrison.

## Bridge Hampton In The Civil War

The record of Bridgehampton in the war for the restoration of the Union is magnificent. The resolve of the people for union was overwhelming. The list of her sons who fought for the flag shows ninety four. Col. Edwin Rose, a graduate of the West Point school was for a time, until disabled by failing health, Col. of the 81st N. Y. Volunteers. He had been long a Justice of the Peace, sometimes Supervisor of the town and member of Assembly in 1848–9. An examination of the record would show that this village furnished officers sufficient to supply a regiment. Bridgehampton's contributions to relieve the sick, wounded and disabled soldiers in the war, were munificent. Of the men from here in the war 19 were killed in battle or died in service or from cause incurred therein.

## Lawsuits

The Pioneer self-reliant is a dominating individual, resolute in defending his rights; slow to abandon a position once taken; persevering in conflict once begun. This inheritance from the fathers for generations descended to their sons. Their noted law suits between noted personalities illustrate these traits of character. Go back about 100 years and you find on record a famous case entitled "Pierson agst Post." The facts connected with it were these; Jesse Pierson, son of Capt. David, coming from Amagansett, saw a fox run and hide down an unused well near Peters Pond and killed and took the fox. Lodowick Post and a company with him were in pursuit and chasing the fox and saw Jesse with it and claimed it as theirs, while Jesse persisted in his claim. Capt. Pierson said his son Jesse should have the fox and Capt. Post said the same of his son Lodowick and hence the

FLOATS SHOWING OLD AND NEW WAY OF WASHING AND IRONING
AND OLD PRAIRIE SCHOONER

law suit contested and appealed to the highest court in the State which decided that Post had not got the possession of the fox when Pierson killed it and that he had no property in it as against Pierson until he had reduced it into his own possession. This became the leading case often cited because it established; and I think, for the first time, by the court of last resort in the State, that to give an individual right in wild animals, the claimant must capture them. To the public the decision was worth its cost. To the parties who each expended over a thousand pounds, the fox cost very dear.

Some sixty years have gone since the action called the Sagg Mill case was tried at Riverhead before a supreme court or circuit court judge, involving principles that affected substantial interest in titles to land and engrossing curiosity of the whole community Hiram Sandford and others bought a windmill at Bullshead and for their convenience and that of their neighbors, removed and set it on an old mill site in the highway at Sagg, opposite the homestead of Paul Topping, where Elisha O. Hedges now resides. Topping brought action of ejectment to recover the mill as a fixture on his property, claiming title to the land as subject only to the travel right of the people. The mill owners claimed that all the land in highways were subject only to the same right of travel, the property of the proprietors of the town, who still had title therein. They urged in defence that the church of 1737 near Esterbrooks corner was partly in the highway. That the highways were grazed by cattle and sheep kept by a shepherd, as was a custom in very early days. The plaintiff lawyers claimed that in the original allotmeuts of land the lots were bounded by highways and that the same boundaries were given in conveyance by deed

generally and the legal effect thereof was to convey the title to the center of the highway, subject only to the right of travel The court ruled for the contention of the plaintiff and that for all time settled the question that no obstruction could be legally put opposite the owner of land next the highway.

## Education

Bridgehamptoners born of English blood whose founders emigrated from Massachusetts, would be false to her traditions if she failed to educate her sons Away back in Revolutionary days, Joseph Gibbs, called "old master Gibbs" taught school in Sagg. In 1775 he resided in Sag Harbor on premises next north of the house of Lemuel Reeves, later owned by Henry A. Reeves, his son. Ministers Woolworth and Francis taught a select school to scholars studying the classics and higher mathematics. Later citizens of Bridgehampton bought land near the house of Samuel L. Halsey. decd., and west thereof, built a school house thereon where for many years a select school was taught. Later still in 1859 an Academy was built whose history has been written by Mrs. Emily C. Hedges and published in the Bridgehampton News of April 19th, 1910. Eighty years ago Bridgehampton abounded in school teachers. Three teachers from there kept school in my early boyhood at Wainscott: John Cooper, Josiah White and Thomas Rose my instructors.

## Legislators And Lawyers

In the Sagg cemetery lie the bodies of five members of Assembly. Henry Pierson, at one time speaker of the House; his son David; Deacon David Hedges; Doctor Nathaniel Topping and David Pierson, son of Jesse and grandson of Capt. David. In the cemetery

HEAD OF PROCESSION PASSING THE HAMPTON HOUSE

near the Presbyterian Church repose the bodies of Abraham T. Rose and Hugh Halsey, both lawyers and judges of the County Court; both presidential electors. The body of Gen. Abraham Rose was buried in the Hay Ground cemetery. He was an elector and voted for President Harrison in 1840. Halsey voted for Polk in 1844 and Abraham T. Rose for Gen. Taylor in 1848. The New York civil list mistakenly credits Gen. Rose to St. Lawrence County instead of Suffolk. Jeremiah Halsey, brother of Hugh, left here in Revolutionary days and became a noted lawyer in Stonington, Connecticut. Job Pierson went from Sagg nearly a century ago and became Surrogate of Rensselaer County, N. Y., member of Congress and eminent lawyer. Robert E. Topping of Sagg became in New York City an honored member of the bar and lawyer of good repute. The legislators and lawyers of Bridgehampton, of whom Nathan Sandford as chancellor of this State and senator of the United States was perhaps most distinguished, have been men of honor and a credit to our village and our country. *

## Doctors

There is a mention in the town record of a doctor Terbell, I think, but only once, whom I cannot place. In the census of 1776, Doctor Benj. Chapin, Henry White, and Stephen Halsey are named. Samuel H. Rose was then not of age to be an M. D. Chapin fled to Connecticut after the battle of Long Island. Halsey and Rose were surgeons in the Revolutionary army and when the war closed removed to Bridgehampton and for many years practiced their profession. Rufus Rose, brother of Samuel, and younger, practiced medicine here many years, residing at Hay Ground where his body was buried. He was surgeon

in the garrison at Sag Harbor in the war of 1812. Dr. Nathaniel Topping of Sagg has been named as a legislator. In the cemetery adjoining the Presbyterian church were buried the bodies of Stephen Halsey and Samuel H. Rose doctors, and also of the same profession as that of Charles E. Halsey, son of Judge Hugh, who was surgeon in the Civil War, and that of Levi D. Wright, M. D , practitioner nearly fifty years, and his son, Nathan H.; also of John L. Gardiner, M. D., like practitioner over half a century, and his father, David Gardiner M. D., and James Rogers M. D., and Samuel H. Rose M. D., son of Hon. A. T. Rose, David Arson Hedges, M. D. son of David and grandson of Capt. David, ten doctors in this one cemetery.

The story of the ministers of Bridgehampton has heretofore been recorded in the history. The long and arduous labors of Ebenezer White for over half a century; the devotion of James Brown; the learning and logic of Aaron Woolworth; the spiritual exaltation of Amzi Francis; the philosophic expositions of Cornelius H. Edgar; the pathetic appeals of David M. Miller, loved and early lost, all live on the historic page. William H. Lester went from Bridgehampton more than a half century past and now lives in West Alexandria, venerable for age, star of spiritual light revered, beloved, and blessing to a far away Church. Of them all it may truly be said:

"He lives in morning's wave of splendor
He lives in evening's pensive gloom,
He lives in memories sweet and tender.
Where roses burn, where violets dream;
His image fills all sacred places---
A shape that time can never dim;
In life he hallowed all the graces,
And dead, all graces hallow him.

## The Methodist Church

The first Methodist Church in Bridgehampton built in 1820, stood just north of the corner of Rev. Amzi Francis land, and was sold July 3rd, 1833, and became the study of Mr. Francis when removed. That year a new and more commodious church was built on a lot between the premises of the late David Hallock and John Hull, decd., who purchased the church site and in 1870 the same church was removed to its present site. St. Ann's Episcopal Church now stands on the John Hull premises, a part of which formed a part of the former site of the Methodist Church.

A picture of the conditions of the common people; how they lived, what was their food and clothing, what their thoughts, their manners, their education, their character, almost ninety years ago, may be interesting and instructive. The pioneer must be hardy, self-reliant, inventive, patient, quick to think and act. His resolutions must be adamant, his forethought incessant; his industry untiring. A weakling is no pioneer. Our forefathers were the pioneers and their descendants strong in their personality; aggressive in training; persistent in opinion; undaunted in danger; unyielding in opposing oppression, made of the stuff that founded States. They could contend in lawsuits among themselves as individuals. When their rights as a community were invaded they united in resistance as one man. These grand old heroes lived as the common people in the most plain and frugal way. Their food was mostly prepared from corn as samp, hominy, hasty pudding, Indian loaf, and Johnny cake. They ate rye bread and seldom, except on extra occasions, wheat bread. Their clothing was from the wool and flax they raised, spun, wove and knit. Their hats in summer were

straw they braided and in winter the caps they wore were made of the furs of the animals they shot. Their shoes and boots were made at home of the hides of cattle they raised. The harness the farmer used he made himself. The yoke of his oxen he worked out except the ring and bolt that held it. To this generation it would be an astonishing lesson to learn how self supporting his grand father was, and how little he bought and sold.

In physical stamina, sharp eyesight, strong teeth, heart and lung power, this generation is inferior, although more highly organized, more advanced in literary and scientific acquirement and social adjustment.

## Temperance and Moral

Intemperance and war are the giant demoralizers of nations. When Woolworth in 1787 was ordained over the church in Bridgehampton its membership had dwindled to 33, in all of which there were only 11 males, (see Primes History p. 207) although the state of morals was not lower there than elsewhere and the Sabbath was observed not less than in other places. Philanthropists throughout Suffolk County ardently sought reformation, by the institution of societies in the county and villages about 1811. Bridgehampton in 1817, March 31, organized such a society. Stephen Halsey, M. D., was moderator and Levi Hedges was chosen president, Stephen Halsey vice president, Dr. Samuel H. Rose treasurer, Stephen Rose secretary, Abraham Topping, Caleb Pierson, Jesse Woodruff and Jacob Halsey, standing committee; William Pierson, Lewis Sandford and Silas Corwithe, sub committee, to solicit additional members. A copy of these proceedings and of the constitution of the society were found in the desk of Deacon Stephen Rose by his daughter Maria. The constitution is

a marvel of forcible, laconic and classic expressions worthy of Woolworth and Beecher whose marks seem to be read therein.

The friends of temperance and morality are often discouraged by adverse public sentiment. Historical review of the past general excess in strong drink, when the whole community, young and old, laity and clergy, habitually indulged, would prove that reformation has progressed. It would prove more, it would prove that the effort to moderate and regulate drinking is a failure. My long life and experience enable me to attest as a witness that drunkenness in the past far exceeded that of the present. That centuries of attempt to regulate and moderate do not regulate. That total abstinence from intoxicants as a beverage is the only safe ground. All this false cry of "prohibition don't prohibit" is as an epigram, a self evident lie. An abstainer does abstain. A Prohibitionist does prohibit himself. A drinker drinks and is no abstainer and no prohibitionist. He can say that of himself and he cannot say it of me or of any other than of one like himself.

## The Last Word

of an address should be no trivial thought. When the founders of this town went down to their graves, all that they had done for self was buried with the sod that covered their bodies. All that they had done to benefit and bless their fellow men lived in the lives of their descendants and could never die. By the same immutable, universal law, when we go down all that we have done for self will be shut down by the coffin lid to rise no more. All that we have done to establish right and destroy wrong, to promote virtue and prohibit vice, to exalt freedom and crush the tyrant, to enlarge joy and lessen woe, to extend intelligence and expel superstition will live an eternal life surviving all changes, all disaster, all storm. To be good and do good is the ideal revealed of Him who is over the universe, the King eternal, immortal, invisible.

# NOTES

* See Page 41

In a memorandum of July 7, 1639 it was agreed upon between James Farrett, agent and Edward Howell, John Gosmer, Edmund Farrington, Daniel Howe, Thomas Halsey, Edward Needham, Allen Breed, Thomas Sayre, Henry Walton, George Wells, (Welby) William Harker, Job Sayre. That whereupon it is agreed upon in a covenant passed between us touching the extent of a plantation in Long Island that the aforesaid Edward Howell and his co-partners shall enjoy eight miles square of land or so much as the said eight miles shall contain and that now lie in the bounds being laid out and agreed upon. It is to begin at a place westward from Shinnecock entitled the name of the place where the Indians draw over their canoes out of the North Bay over to the South Side of the Island and from there to run along that neck of land eastward the whole breadth between the bays aforesaid to the easterly end of an island or neck of land lying over against the Island commonly known by the name of Mr. Farrett's Island. (Shelter Island) To enjoy all and every part thereof according and as expressed in our agreement elsewhere with that island or neck lying over against Mr. Farrett's Island (meaning North Haven) formerly expressed.

James Farrett,

Thomas Dexter and Richard Walker, Witnesses.

These witnesses were both residents and large land holders in Lynn, Massachusetts. (Vid. History of Lynn by Newhall p. 172) and Dexter was the purchaser of Nahant.

---

* See Page 46

Bayles History of Suffolk County states: "after their expulsion from Cow Bay, some time during the month of June, they commenced the settlement of Southampton," page 305. Of Southold he says: "The first settlement of this town was made in September 1640" p. 360.

Munsells History of Suffolk County reads: "There can no longer be any doubt that Southampton was settled in June, 1640, see Article Southold p 9. And the deeds Farrett to Jackson and Jackson to Weatherbee are spoken of as misdated in 1639 and should be 1640.

Abiel Holmes, father of Oliver Wendell Holmes, an accurate Historian wrote the "Annals of America" and therein

noted the expulsion from Cow Bay and states "the adventurers now removed to the east end of the island," Vol. 1, p. 258 and quotes as authority Winthrops Journal.

Ogilbys History of America was printed in London in 1671 when living men knew the facts, on page 61 it states "About the year 1640 by a fresh supply of people that settled on Long Island was there erected the twenty-third town called Southampton, by the Indians Agawam, which gives a priority as a town in number over Southold and the same priority is given in Edward Johnson's "Wonder Working Providence" (see chapter 18 of the planting of Long Island). And in Lechfords "Plain Dealing or News from New England" p. 101, a like record.

In Brodheads History of New York, the careful and capable Historian writes of the expulsion as leading "to the immediate settlement of the town of Southampton" Vol. 1 p. 300.

The vessel was bought "for the use of the plantation" and made three voyages there in the 1st. 4th. and 8th. months. The expulsion voyage counted nothing, three voyages must be made in 1640 and at least two before the December voyage. It is probable the vessel was too small to convey all the emigrants at once and that some came on the voyages before that in December. Such a presumption seems fair and fits all the conditions and all contemporary records of the settlement of the town.

Irrelevant testimony, side issues, different tests of settlement by Historians, confusion of dates by reason of change from old to new style, and other causes have multiplied such confusion on the question of priority of the settlement of the towns of Southampton and Southold, that a clearing of these matters would lengthen this address into a monotonous and dreary length that would be intolerable. And yet a note clarifying the subject would not only be admissible but valuable and therefore this explanation. The actual occupation by settlers and owners of lands of a town is a settlement of a town then and thereafter continued and just that was the way the settlement of Southampton began by the men of the Lynn expedition in June, 1640, who were acting in the name and by authority of all the original proprietors and founders of the town. Their act was the act of all and their settlement began the settlement of all of the town. By the terms of their deed they could settle anywhere on Long Island and by the same terms no others could begin to settle

until after they had located their eight miles square. We start now in no fog. There might be a purchase from the Indians, and even a church organized elsewhere, before a settlement or occupation of land, which the purchaser might buy not to settle but to sell. Now Southold organized her church in New Haven with settlers not in Southold but in New Haven where the church was. Southampton organized her church in Lynn, and, before that, had settled in Southampton, occupying her territory and therefore these were the first settlers.

Silas Wood dates the settlement of Long Island Towns from the date of purchase of the Indians (see Woods History of Long Island page 13.)

Prime dates the settlement from the organizations of the church (see Primes History of Long Island p. 64.) Both historians differ, both give priority to Southold and both are wrong and both confusing.

Benjamin F. Thompson's History, 1st edition, gave priority to Southold, one vol. History. In his 2nd edition, 2 vols. he gave no such priority, yet the Southold claimant cites his 1st vol. as authority and made unauthorized more confusion. In his 2nd. edition he cited Winthrops Journal and therefore witnessed the priority of Southampton. (see vol 1 p. 32.) In a history of Long Island published in 1905 by the Lewis publishing Co., begun by Ross and completed in 3 vols. by Wm. S. Pelletreau, Southampton is stated to be settled by the men of the expedition on or about June 12, 1640 (see page 287 Vol. 2.) giving priority to Southampton.

Farretts deed to Jackson, a carpenter, is dated August 15, 1640. Four months afterward Jackson conveyed to Witherbee and Witherbee to Goodyear by deed dated October 22, 1640. So that between August 15th and October 22nd, in 68 days, a house was built and the house and land had been sold three times and last to a merchant and probable speculator in New Haven, and so far as appears not one of these parties ever intended to settle in Southold and yet this is claimed as evidence of a priority of Southold before a Southampton settlement. Nor did the authorities in New Haven acknowledge the rights of the grantees of Sunderland and Jackson as prior to their grant and right so far as is shown, but rather the reverse.

The constable who at that time was the chief officer in the early history of Long Island towns, was not chosen by the freemen of Southold but appointed by the New Haven authorities. See Atwaters History of New Haven p 179.

More than twenty years ago I examined this question and was then convinced that Southampton had priority of settlement. All after examination has confirmed that conviction.

The New Haven authorities with a firm grip held their deed to the territory of Southold and did not release it to the Southold equitable owners for some nine years. They wished to bring that colony under their form of government by the church members excluding all others. A majority of the people there desired to combine with the colony of Connecticut as finally they did after a contest like that in Southampton. The historians and antiquarians of Southold have lamented the loss of a supposed first volume of their records as irreparable. As they were kept in subjection by the New Haven authorities who appointed their constable, their only officer and as the people were not allowed in their first years to choose any officials there could be no records of town meetings and little to record except the maps or plots of land drawn and allotted and they probably were kept in loose paper rolls. Neither Howell. Pelletreau, Tooker nor myself believe there ever was a lost volume of their early records because they had no town meeting proceedings to record and as far as appears no requirement for such a supposed lost book--Some of these rolls or maps may have been worn out, defaced or lost and that seems to be all that could be lost.

* See Page 51

The line between East Hampton and Southampton Town runs from the ocean North, and on the West sides of the homestead formerly of my father and later of Herman Strong to the country road and then jogs East some 40 rods and then runs straight just West of the foot of Sag Harbor dock which is in East Hampton. The jog can be explained thus: When the Sagaponac allottment was made in 1653, East Hampton had encroached on Southampton territory by allottments to individuals and West of the true line about 100 rods at the ocean and up to and North of Daniels Lane and probably more or less to the country road. When I first remember, 86 years ago, Jesse Strong owned 6 acres West of the line and south of Daniels Lane, West of him James Strong owned a 6 acre lot, next to that my father owned a lot called "Chatfields Close" of 24 acres and south of that Bethuel and James Edwards owned lots and had access thereto by a road fenced. Then North of Daniels Lane and opposite "Chatfields Close"

my father owned a lot of 14 acres called "Leeks Lot" and East of that and West of said line Elishas lot of 11 acres, now John Hands corner lot, and North of lot a lot of 10 acres called the Barn Lot, and North of that John S. Osborn owned a lot of 10 acres on the corner of the line highway and "Hedge's Lane", as the rough plot of all these lots shows. All these were encroachments over the Southampton line, and as Chatfield and Lee were East Hampton men the encroahment seems both proved and confirmed, and explains the contention about the line, and the jog at the country road was an equivalent for the jog at the South of it, given up to the East Hampton men to whom, by mistake, it was allotted, and it explains all the entries in the Southampton Town records of the trial at Hartford against Chatfield, and the Indians testimony as to the line of the Shinnecock Tribe. See Town Records Vol. 1, Pages 98, 114. Vol. 2. Pages 3 and 4, 134, 135, 136, 182, 187, 212, 194.

The boundary line between the Towns of East and South Hampton was in dispute from 1660 until its final settlement in 1695. Originally it was a straight line as is proved by the decision of the court in Hartford in May 1661, recorded in the Colonial records of Connecticut on page 367, which reads thus: "It is agreed between Capt. Topping, Mr. Halsey, Mr Stanborough and John Cooper, in behalf of all of Southampton unsatisfied about their bounds, and Mr. Baker and Mr. Mulford in behalf of ye town of East Hampton, that the bounds between the two Plantations shall forever be and remain at the stake set down by Capt. Howe an hundred pole Eastward from a little pond, the said stake being two miles or thereabouts from the East side of a great pond commonly called Sagaponock and so to run from the South Sea to the stake and so over the Island by a straight line to ye Eastward end of Hog Neck. According to the true, intent and purpose of what is expressed in the grant and deed subscribed and allowed by Mr. James Farrett, agent for the Right Noble Earl of Sterling. It is further to be understood that what agreement is here made doth no way intrench upon any of the rights, privileges or immunities conferred upon Southampton by their patent purchased of the aforesaid James Farrett &c.

When in 1663 the Sagaponac allotment was made the town of East Hampton had previously alloted as part of their territory land west of the true line to persons of their town

as far as about 100 rds and up to the little pond mentoned in the decision of the court at Hartford. The encroaching allotments of East Hampton probably somewhat cleared and fenced and improved were enhanced in value thereby. It would be unneighborly and unjust to take them from East Hampton and get for nothing this enhanced value. Therefor they were left as they were. The Sagaponac allotment began near where the encroachments ended at lot No. 1. (24 acres at the wigwam and pond near the extent of the town bounds toward East Hampton and to be laid out to them yt they shall belong to (see Southampton Town Records Vol. I, Page 98.) Lot No. 3 of 7 acres was on the East side of Sagaponac pond, which is, I think, Fairfield pond. From the west side of that pond to the east side of Sagaponac pond was 22 allotments and about 240 to 250 rods, and including lots from No. 4 to 25. I think the little pond near the extent of the Eastern Town bound is a little pond in the lot of Bethuel and James Edwards, near the ocean where the cows pastured and drank in my early days, about 100 rods west of the line between the towns. The 6 acre lots of Jesse and James Strong were west of the line and west of them were the lots of Bethuel and James Edwards and the Chatfields Close of Zephaniah Hedges. All these were encroachments South of Daniels Lane. North of that Lane were encroachments of the lots of Zephaniah Hedges, in my youth called Leeks Lot, Elishas Lot, Barn Lot and the lot of John S. Osborn, bounded north by Hedges Lane, and probably there were encroachments still farther north. Chatfield's close was probably the close of an ancestor of Lawyer H. H. Chatfield, of Bridgehampton, and Leeks lot the close of a Leek. These were names of East Hampton men and unknown in Southampton. In the settlement of the line between the towns, June 25, 1695, although the line south of the country road was unchanged there was a jog eastward 35 poles allowed to Southampton in compensation of the encroachments which were made and retained in the ownership of the East Hampton men within Southampton bounds. See Southampton Records Vol. 2. p 134 5 and 6. This is the explanation of the jog in the line at the country road and of the many entries in the Town records about it.

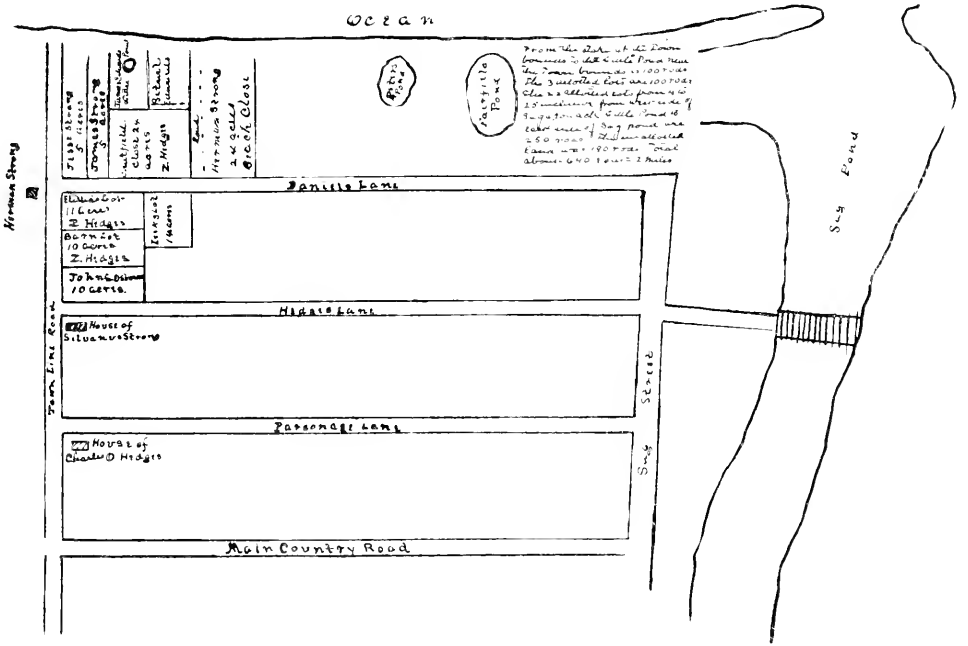
The Indian tribes had exact boundary lines, One tribe could convey only its own territory. In the controversy between Southold which claimed meadows South of Peconic

Bay, claimed also by Southampton, the latter won because they had the Shinnecock Title in whose territory were these meadows. See Southampton Town record Vol. 2 p. 110, 111 112. The testimony of Indians as to the line and bounds of the towns noted often in the town records is thus explained. That part of Sag Harbor lying in East Hampton bounds went by the Indian name of Wegwaganuck or Wigwaganuck. At the foot of Sleight's Hill was an Indian village called Wequae-wan-auke meaning "land or place at the end of the hill." Tradition says that Indian wigwams stood near Round pond long after East and Southampton were settled. The boundary line of the Montauk and Shinnecock tribes was the boundary of the East and Southampton towns. The Indians of the village at Sag Harbor knew their bounds and where Daniel Howe should place his stake near the ocean. Their testimony did not agree with that of the Indian and squaw sent by the Shinnecock Sachem to the Town meeting June 19, 1657, who testified that the Shinnecock Indian bounds "went to Georgica or Wainscott at the least or thereabouts" See Southampton records Vol, 1 p 114.

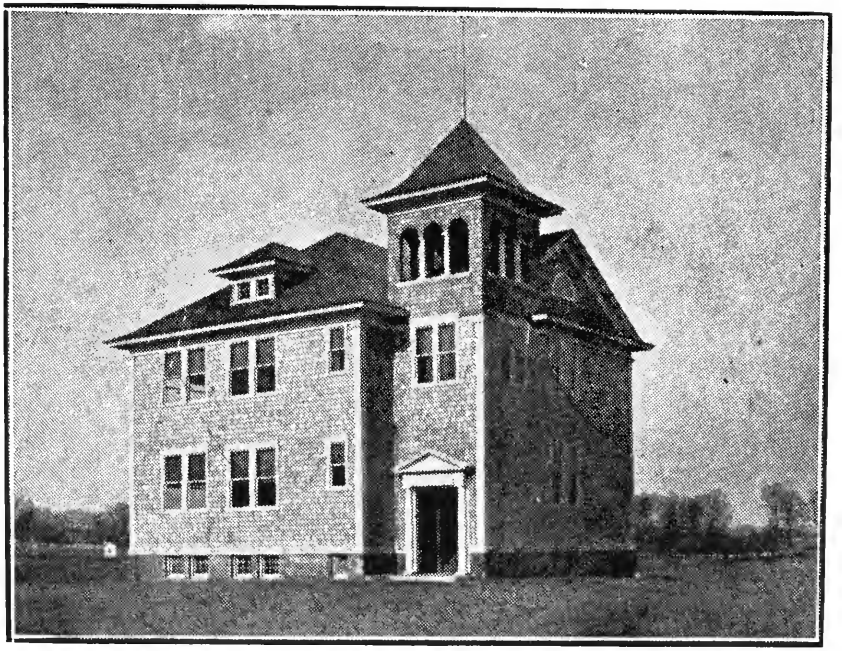
---

* See Page 58

Following is a list of Refugees from Bridgehampton who fled to Connecticut before and chiefly after the battle of Long Island, August 26, 1776. Daniel Albertson, Hezekiah Bower, Stonington and East Haddam; Dr. Benjamin Chapin, E. Haddam; Margaret Chapin, Benjamin Chappel, Silas Cooper, Stonington; Jonathan Cook, Saybrook; Major Silas Cook, Jeremiah Gardiner, Maltby Gelston, E. Haddam; David Gelston, John Gelston, William Gelston, Thomas Gelston, Daniel Haines, David Haines, Elias Halsey, Henry Halsey, killed at New London and named on the Groton monument; Jeremiah Halsey, lawyer, Stonington; John Halsey, Josiah Halsey, Phebe Halsey, widow; Theophilus Halsey, Timothy Halsey, William Halsey, David Hand, Gideon Hand, Widow Hedges, Daniel Hedges, Col. Jonathan Hedges, Jonathan Hedges, Jr., Steven Hedges, Joshua Hildreth, Stonington; Daniel Hopping, Daniel Howell, Saybrook; David Howell, Edward Howell, Saybrook, Hartford and Colebrook; Elias Howell, Ezekial Howell, Joshua Howell, Isaac Howell, Philip Howell, Recompence Howell, Ryall Howell, Walter Howell, and son; Matthew Jagger, Anthony Ludlow, Stonington, William Ludlow, Duncan McCullum, Daniel Moore, Henry Moore, Hannah Moore, Andrew Morehouse,




PLOT OF ENCROACHMENTS



Bridgehampton High School, Bridgehampton, Long Island

William Nicholson, Silas Norris, Silas Jessup, Capt. David Pierson, E. Haddam; Elias Pierson, E Haddam; Lemuel Pierson, E Haddam; Lemuel Pierson, Jr., E Haddam; Lemuel Pierson 3d, E Haddam; Matthew Pierson, E Haddam; Sylvanus Pierson, Stonington; Theophilus Pierson, Zebulon Pierson, Zachariah Pierson, Elias Post, Saybrook;Jeremiah Post, Saybrook; Nathan Post, Saybrook; Widow Rogers, Sarah Rogers, Capt. Jeremiah Rogers, Killingworth; Jarvis Rogers, John Rogers, Jonathan Rogers, Joshua Rogers, New London; Nathaniel Rogers, Capt. Zachariah Rogers; Capt. William Rogers, Abraham Rose, Ezekiel Sandford, E Haddam; Abraham Sayre, Benjamin Sayre, Benjamin Sayre, Jr., E Haddam; David Sayre, Stonington and East Haddam; James Sayre, Lewis Stanborough, Daniel Topping, Charles Topping, Stonington, Henry Topping, Stonington; Joseph Topping, Saybrook and Middletown; Paul Topping, Stonington; Capt. Stephen Topping, Saybrook; Capt. Thomas Topping, Saybrook; Edward Wick, Guilford; Daniel Woodruff, E Haddam; Dr. Henry White, Stonington; Benjamin White, David White, John White, Silas White.

List of Bridgehampton refugees who served in the army on Long Island and after that served in the army in Connecticut: Henry Brown, James Foster, David Hand, Jr., Jonathan Hand, Joseph Hand, Abraham Pierson, Jonathan Russell, David Sandford, John Sandford, probably Capt.; David Smith, Christopher Vail twice on the pension list.

---

* See Page 63

Paternal ties seem to forbid the author of this address to make mention of one who was accomplished, bright, genial and endeared to the people of Bridge Hampton. Edwin Hedges, son of Judge Henry P. Hedges, was born Feb. 12, 1847, graduated from Yale College in the class of 1869. He married Miss Emily, daughter of Richard Cook, was engaged in the practice of law with every prospect of a long, happy and useful life when stricken by a fatal malady, he came to an untimely death on May 8, 1881, mourned by a devoted wife, loving parents and a host of friends. It can be truly said, he was a man of strict integrity, the soul of honor and left the good heritage of a character without a stain. This gentle tribute is here offered to the memory of one with whom I was associated in youth and early manhood, and whom I can proudly claim as a friend.

G. Clarence Topping.

* See Article "Temperance and Moral" page 66

The constitution of the moral society in Bridgehampton was as follows: When impiety and vice prevail to an alarming degree, it highly becomes those who regard the welfare of the community to make all reasonable and provident exertions to arrest their progress and promote reformation.

Impressed with this conviction we the subscribers, inhabitants of the parish of Bridgehampton, have unanimously agreed to form ourselves into a society to be denominated the Bridgehampton Moral Society, for the suppression of vice and the promotion of virtue. In doing this we rely on the blessing of God for success and hope for the encouragement and co-operation of our fellow citizens.

And that no mistake may arise relative to the particular vices against which we mean to bear special testimony we unanimously agree that both in our own conduct and that of our families we will pay a sacred regard to the following things.

I That we will avoid slander and not wantonly defame the character of our neighbors but be tender of the reputation and good name of all with whom we are connected.

II That we will at all times by our example and on proper occasions by friendly admonition discountenance profane language of every description.

III That we will always be upon our guard in the use of ardent spirits, will not make a common practice of usiug them in our social visits and will in all prudent ways use our influence to prevent the excessive use of them in others; in short we resolve to direct our exertions against the horribie vice of intemperance believing it to be of all others the most fruitful source of vice and calamity.

IV We also engage to pay a conscientious regard to the holy Sabbath not only avoiding those things which are contrary to the Divine Law but by performing the appropriate duties of the day and to use our influence to prevent the profanation of it by others.

V We promise to aid and encourage the civil magistrate in administering the laws of the state against immoralities.

And to assist us in carrying the objects of this Institution into effect we unanimously agree to the following "Articles of Association."

I The society shall meet semi-annually at such place as they may appoint and oftener as occasion may require at the call of the president any 15 of whom shall constitute a quorum to do business

II The officers of the society shall be a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer who shall be chosen at every annual meeting.

III At every stated meeting four persons shall be chosen who with the above mentioned officers shall constitute a com-

mittee to manage the concerns of the society.

IV It shall be the duty of the committee to meet on the first Thursday of April ensuing and afterward quarterly and oftener if necessary, to exert themselves in every prudent and lawful way to suppress vice in general and especially those flagrant immoralities which have been specified above and to report their proceedings to the society at every stated meeting and the society engage to support them in all the regular measures which they may adopt and prosecute.

V The committee shall have power to appoint such sub-committees as may be necessary to effect the designs of the institution either from their own body or from the society at large.

VI The committee shall supply all vacancies which may happen in their board as in their sub-committees.

VII There shall be a standing sub-committee of three persons to solicit from the friends of virtue and order, additional members.

VIII Any person of fair moral character may become a member of this society by subscribing to this constitution. The society shall have power at any regular meeting to dismiss any member whose conduct is manifestly unfriendly to the design of the Institution And any member wishing to withdraw from the society may do so by signifying his desire to the society.

IX The expenses of the society shall be defrayed by the voluntary contributions of its members.

X The secretary shall register the names of all the members and conduct the correspondence of the society and of the committee and keep a fair record of their respective proceedings.

XI The society shall by their committee make a report of their state proceedings to the "Suffolk County Moral Society" at their annual meetings in May.

XII These articles shall be subject to revision and may be altered at any stated meeting of the society by a vote of two thirds of the members present.

At a meeting of a respectable number of persons held by adjournment to form a Moral Society in Bridgehampton on the evening of March 31st 1817, Stephen Halsey, moderator, Levi Hedges, Clerk. A constitution was presented; amended and unanimously adopted and is as follows:

The meeting then proceeded to the choice of officers as follows: Deacon David Hedges, President; Stephen Halsey, Esq, Vice President; Dr. Samuel H. Rose, Treasurer; Stephen Rose, Secretary; Abraham Topping, Caleb Pierson Jesse Woodruff and Jacob Halsey, committee. William Pierson, Lewis Sandford and Silas Corwith, standing sub committee to solicit additional members. Resolved that the above proceedings, signed by the Moderator and Clerk, be published in the Suffolk County Recorder.

Stephen Halsey, Moderator,
Levi Hedges, Clerk

## Address of Rev. Arthur T. Pierson, D. D.

On a festive occasion like this, when the mass of the people are so much taken up with the spectacular, in an appropriate display, and in the movements of a commemorative procession, we have more than doubts as to whether the multitude at large care much for addresses, and I have wondered whether it might not be just as well if this part of the programme were omitted. I am reminded of a remark made to me by a friend when I was stepping upon the train leaving London. He told me the story of two Irishmen in Dublin, one of whom said to the other, "Pat, you must niver get on the last carriage of the train." "Why not, Mike?" "Because it is the most dangerous of all.' "Faith," said Pat, "why don't they lave it off?"

Perhaps it might be well to "lave off" this speech altogether; however, as I am here to speak I will say a few words about this occasion. In the first place, two hundred and fifty years mark a considerable portion of human history. It must be remembered that only ten of such periods have elapsed since the beginning of all recorded history, the founding of Rome, and it is no exaggeration to say that the last two hundred and fifty years have been marked by tremendous advances, to which I shall refer briefly.

Mr. Gladstone remarked that so great had been the progress of the race in modern times that ten years of the Nineteenth Century marked more progress than the entire history of the race preceding. This seems like an exaggeration, but when we come to examine closely we shall see that it falls within the limits of accurate statement. Take the Victorian era, for instance, which began only about eighty years ago. During that period about two hundred of the most important and revolutionizing inventions and discoveries of the ages have been brought to the knowledge of man-

The Minuet, One of the Graceful Dances of Our Forefather's Day

kind. Perhaps it may be well to indicate a few of the directions in which these modern discoveries have so astonished the world.

For instance in the modes of travelling, the railway and steamship, not to say the air ship, all belong to this era, as well as the motor car and trolley. Then there is labor saving machinery,of which the typewriter and sewing machine, and a hundred others, are conspicuous examples. Then in the conveyance of thought we have the telegraph and telephone and wireless telegraphy. Again, in the means of illumination, there are gas and electricity. There is the new application of llght in the daguerreotype photograph, x-rays, the rontgen rays, the spectroscope, and spectrum analysis; the machines which have to do with sound, like the phonograph and the telephone; the discovery of new elements, very prominent among which is radium; the whole science of antiseptics and anaesthetics; the triumph of the microscope in the discovery of bacteria and bacilli; the giant explosives, like dynamite and giant powder; the steam press; the half-tone engraving. These are only a few of the marvelous discoveries and inventions of these last seventy-five or eighty years. In some respects man seems to have reached his limit; for, obviously, there can be no more rapid transmission of intelligence than instantaneous So we see that two hundred and fifty years is a very important era in human history.

Bridgehampton is connected with some of my progenitors, a fact of which I am not ashamed. We owe more than we realize to the intelligence, integrity piety and self-denying sacrifice of those who first settled Long Island and the vicinity of Bridgehampton and to their immediate descendants. They were high-minded men and women; they had the spirit of the Pilgrims and the Puritans; they worshipped God;

they were honorable in their dealings with men; they kept the Sabbath; they valued the Scriptures; they honored the sanctuary; and they planted beneath the setting sun the germ of a great republic and helped to foster its principles and habits of life which even now manifest their influences in every upright community.

I think we ought to emphasize more than we do the sturdy stock that came to Bridgehampton and the rich legacy which they left to us, their children and descendants I believe that they laid the foundation both of Church and state, and of good government, both political and ecclesiastical, in the family. We must not forget that the family was God's original church and state, and model or form of both. The father was the original and only priest and ruler, and therefore as the household was organized and regulated so was it with the Church and state. The first commandment of the second table is "Honor thy father and thy mother." It stands in the second table where the command to worship God only stands in the first, and the reason is in part that the parent sustains to the child during a certain period of its history the relation of God. Before the child knows that there is a Father in heaven he has learned that he has a father on earth and if he be taught to obey his human parents, naturally when he comes to the consciousness of God he transfers to his heavenly Father the allegiance he has rendered to his earthly father.

To be strict and yet sympathetic in the treatment of children is one of the most important of all laws of life, and we cannot but notice a great decline in the family life of to-day. Oftentimes the father and mother are no longer practically the head of the household. At an early age children consider themselves quite too old to obey their parents, and family discipline is decaying. The modern maxim seems to be

How Our Ancestors Danced the Minuet

'Spoil the rod and spare the child," with a consequent growth of filial disobedience and independence of parental rule. In many cases it is the children rather than the parents who actually rule in the home, and the supreme will is not the intelligent and mature will of father and mother but the ignorant and immature will of the boy or girl. All this is a menace for the future. I wish to leave on this occasion as my testimony in Bridgehampton my clear and positive conviction that the purity of the family largely determines the purity of all human institutions. When anarchy prevails within the household we are laying the foundation of anarchy in the state and in the Church.

I congratulate you upon the completion of this two hundred and fifty years, and enjoin upon you to maintain pure household life, to stand by the old Bible and God's weekly day of rest, to maintain services of worship and the prayer meeting, and every other godly institution which had to do with the foundation of Bridgehampton society; for once more let me say that, as is the little republic within the home so will ultimately be the greater republic of which the home is but a part.

## Address Of William S. Pelletreau, A. M.

Some years since, when they were celebrating the four hundreth anniversary of the discovery of America, and all were singing the praises of the great discoverer, a person visited a little Italian school in New York: "Is there any little child present who can tell us anything about Christopher Columbus?' Finally one little girl, with eyes and hair as black as a coal, put up her hand. "Well my little dear, what can you tell us about Christopher Columbus"? "He---is---dead." The child's information was indisputably correct, but somewhat limited.

In Trinity church yard in the city of New York there is a fine bronze statue of John Watts. On one occasion as we were observing the monument, a company of young men were standing near. They were well dressed, evidently possessing ordinary intelligence, and had doubtless enjoyed all the advantages of the public schools, and of them we asked the question, "Who was John Watts?" One replied very promptly, "He was the man who wrote hymns." He evidently confounded him with the Rev. Isaac Watts. Another contradicted that statement, and assured us that "he was the man who invented the steam engine." He had confounded him with James Watt, the Scottish engineer. The third, the fourth and the fifth each made the same reply, "You have got me." And yet John Watts was a great man in his day. The recorder of New York City, a judge of a high court, honored for his learning and respected for his integrity. There is not to day a man in that great city who is relatively so important as he, for there was not in his time, a man or a woman, who did not know the Hon. John Watts, and where he lived. He was one of the

great men of his time.

Now we believe that one of the principal objects of celebrations like this, is to keep in remembrance the name and deeds of the men who have gone before; but go into your high school and ask of the most intelligent scholars, "What can you tell us about Lieut. Col. Henry Pierson, or Capt. Thomas Topping, or William Barnes, or John Stanborough or anything concerning the early history of their native town or native village, and the chances are that the sum total of their knowledge would be expressed in the words, "They are dead," or "You have got me" We have in Southampton a high school, and we suppose it would be high treason for us to say that it is not the best in Suffolk County, but when we asked a scholar who had graduated from that school with what are called "high honors," to tell us the names of the towns in the county, the answer came with much hesitation, "Southampton, East Hampton, Greenport, Riverhead, Patchogue, Port Jefferson, and I don't know the rest." Now this scholar had wasted much time over Greek History; might possibly know the difference between Alexander the Great and Alexander the Coppersmith; might be able to tell something about Marathon or Platea, but knew absolutely nothing about the town or the county in which he lived; and strange to say, did not know the difference between a town and a village. The study of classical history and the languages of the ancient world are certainly of great importance, and no one can lay claim to any degree of education, who is ignorant of them. Yet for all the practical affairs of common life, Suffolk County is a great deal nearer to us than Greece, and Bridgehampton is of more consequence than Athens.

In the beginning we find that in the spring of 1640

the original settlers landed at North Sea, and began the new settlement in Southampton village, on the shore of the ocean. They were few in number, and we do not believe that during the first year they exceeded twenty men. They lived closely together at what has ever since been known as "The Old Town", but every succeeding year increased their number. In 1648 the community was so large it was deemed advisable to lay out a "New Town Plot." This was the present main street of Southampton. The original record of this is lost, but by a very careful research the home lot and dwelling place of every inhabitant has been located. Strange to say, the most careful search was made by a man who has never seen Southampton or Bridgehampton. Prof. Winans of Princeton University, the noted Greek scholar,has studied this with all the care and labor and ability which he would have bestowed upon collating Greek manuscript in editing a classical work. Among other things which attracted his attention, and we confess with shame, had escaped our own, was that our ancestors kept the Puritan Sabbath, which began on Saturday at sunset and ended at sunset on Sunday. This explains an entry, that a Town meeting was to be held on the first day of the week "at the setting of the sun," for all after that was secular time. Since the above was written. Prof. Winans has passed away, a great loss to the cause of classical literature.

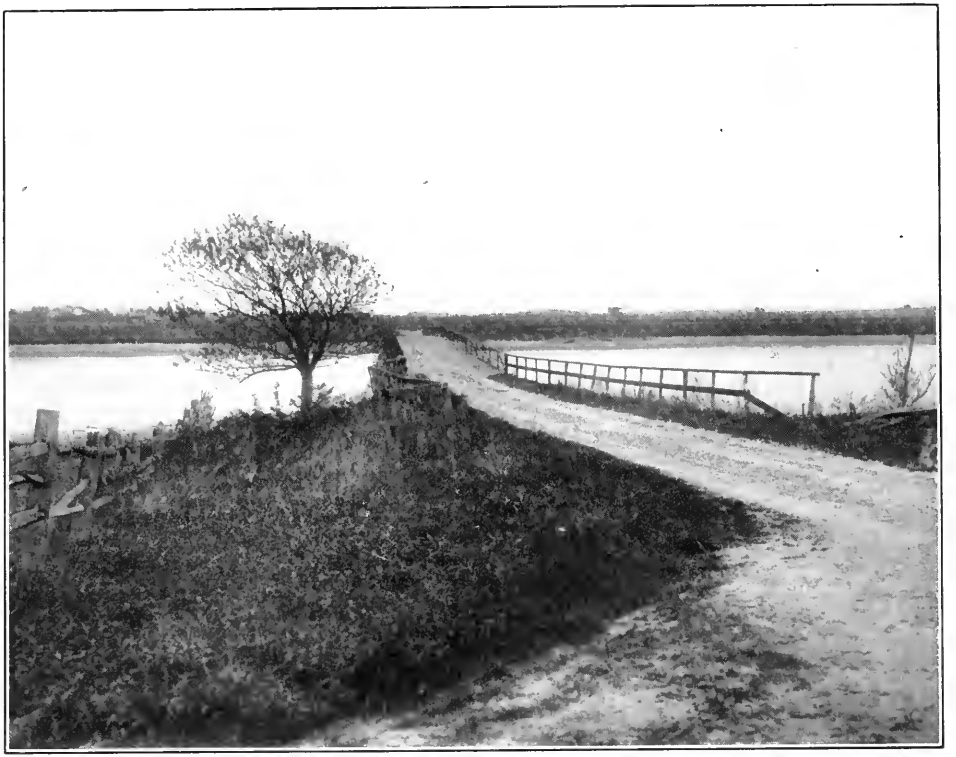
The neighborhood of the main street, and the fertile necks of land near adjoining, were cultivated at a very early day, and it was not until years later, that the village, like a busy beehive that it was, sent out a swarm to settle a more distant region, and the region was Sagaponack. The superior excellence of the land in that part of the town had already become

SAGAPONACK EIGHT IN "OUR COUNTRY'S SONG"

known and the name itself is a proof of it. Among the indigenous products of our soil is a plant called the ground nut, and known to the Indians by the name of "Sepun." It is a vine with leaves and blossoms resembling a pea. The roots which are long and slender enlarge at intervals into a protuberance, varying in size, the largest we have seen being about as large as a very small potato. They contain a large amount of nutriment, and were used by the natives for food. There are three localities in the town the names of which are derived from this plant. A place about three miles northwest of Southampton has always been known as "Seponack," the "ground nut place." "Catchepun" was a larger kind and from it comes the name of Catcheponack. While the largest kind of all was Sagapun, and Sagaponack is "the place where the biggest ground nuts grow."

In 1653 a division of land was laid out and known as the Sagaponack division. It was next to the ocean and extended from the East Hampton line to what is now known as Flying Point, and the lots into which the tract was divided fell to the various proprietors of the town, in proportion to their respective "rights" or shares, as was done in all such cases. In March, 1658, we find the first mention of a dwelling house in that region, and it was the home of Josiah Stanborough to whom, in our opinion, the honor of being the founder of Sagaponack and Bridgehampton is justly due. His place at the south end of Sagg street has ever since borne the name of "Stanborough Lot." With him at the same time, or soon after, came Elnathan and John Topping, also William Barnes, who afterwards went to Westchester, when it was debatable land between the Dutch and the English, and as "Capt William Barnes," was the great man of that neighborhood. At

an early date a man named Shamgar Hand was a settler there, then came Elnathan, John and Josiah Topping and this is about the limit of our knowledge as to the original settlement. We know that Josiah Stanborough and the Toppings went on adding field to field, but that Captain Thomas Topping, the honored ancestor of the family, ever lived there, is something for which we find no evidence. In 1667 a new division of land was laid out at Sagaponack. It was north of the former division, and a highway was laid out between them, which is the one running east from Fairfield. In this division was the land on the east side of Sagg pond. It was not until this division was made that the Piersons first made their appearance at Sagaponack. On December 16, 1679, Henry Pierson, Jr., purchased from George Harris a tract of land bounded south by Wm. Barnes, Josiah Stanborough and Shamgar Hand; west by Sagaponack pond, east by the street and north by land of Benjamin Palmer. The number of acres is not stated This land has continued in the possession of his descendants till the present time. He left it in his will to his son Job Pierson, and it fell in later years to men of the same name, and for long years it has appeared on the assessment roll as "the land of Job Pierson's heirs." The land where Lieut. Col. Henry Pierson lived and made his home was on the east side of Main Street, south of the road that runs east by the land of the heirs of Richard Lester. On Dec. 30, 1678, Christopher Leaming sold to Henry Pierson, "All my home accomodations at Sagaponack 6 acres whereof lye between the home lots of Benjamin Hand and Benoni Flint. The other 4 acres is at the end of my 6 acres, and the lot of Benoni Flint. In all 10 acres." This was the home of Lieut. Col. Henry Pierson, Member and Speaker of the Colonial Legislature and honored ancestor of honorable de-



The First Church, Erected in 1686, Stood in the Foreground to the Left
Sagaponack Bridge.

scendants. The lot bounded west by the Main street, north by the highway that runs by the house of Mr. Hiram S. Rogers, and south by the middle road, was Lot No. 20 of that division, and fell to Thomas Halsey, whose son Daniel Halsey sold it to Theodore Pierson, a brother of Lieut. Col. Pierson, June 9, 1692. He lived and died there and left it to his heirs. By purchase and exchange and inheritance, the Piersons became the largest land owners in the place, and their descendants multiplied and increased. In the early part of the last century there were eleven families of that name in the village. A remnant still remains. The Toppings are here and may their shadow never be less, but where are the Stanboroughs?

But the historical part has been written by abler hands than ours, and we feel that our part is of an entirely different character.

In those days when we were young and handsome, (both long since past), we made a visit to our friend Clarence Topping, who then, as well as now, answered the description much better than ourself. Being naturally an "Old Mortality" we drifted to the ancient burying ground just as a duck would drift to a pond. We pondered over and copied the old inscriptions. There was John Topping, Justice of the Peace, "who died the 29th of May in the year 1689, aged 50 years;" the fact that he was Justice was worth putting on his stone. Squires were squires in those days. No wonder that when Capt. Jecomiah Scott came from New York, having obtained his commission from the Governor, he rode into Southampton waving it aloft and shouting, "Now I will make North Sea to tremble and the town to fear me" But what attracted our attention still more, was an ancient house which stood directly opposite. It had long since been abandoned and was soon to be torn down. The well curb was

still there, but the old oaken bucket and the well sweep had both retired from business. The happy thought occurred to us to make a sketch, putting in all the salient features to the best of our ability. This sketch, elaborated by a much more skillful artist, is probably the only picture that exists of the home of Rev. Ebenezer White, the first minister of Bridge Hampton. He is said to have purchased the house and lot in April, 1695, and it could not have been built long before that time. We were told once by an aged person that it was exactly like the house of Col. Henry Pierson. It is not difficult to believe it, for the houses of that day were all built on the same model; the difference being that some were single and some were double; that is an equal part on each side of the main entrance. What interests us far more was the manner of life of the people of those times. To most persons an old account book would seem the dryest and most uninteresting of reading but if any one in his researches happens to meet with one, let him preserve it carefully, for he has found a prize. The names of things in daily use and their prices cannot be found elswhere When John Pintard founded the New York Historical Society, he said, "A file of old newspapers is worth more to us than all the Byzantine Historians." For 150 years after the town was settled there was no local newspaper to tell the affairs of the day nor the prices current, and the Old Account Book is the only thing to supply its place. During the greater part of that period prices remained almost the same. A man for an ordinary day's work received 3 shillings, for mowing a long day in the summer he had 4 shillings, but for thrashing with a flail in the winter he had only 2 shillings and sixpence, and these wages continued for a hundred years. How interesting it

would be if some one who built a house had made a statement of its cost in labor and materials. But the account book to a certain extent suffices the information. Three feet cedar shingles were about $10 a thousand. Boards were 7 shillings per hundred feet or 87 cents. A carpenter's wages were generally the price of a bushel of wheat, varying from 6 to 7 shillings. When a new house was to be built the first thing was to make an agreement with the village blacksmith to make the nails. At the present time nails are so cheap that if a carpenter drops one, he cannot afford to spend time to pick it up. But he would afford the time if they cost 11 pence a pound. Eveyy nail was of some consequence in those times. When the house was finished and covered with three feet cedar shingles, put on with wrought nails, it was expected to last seventy five years, without paint or repairs. The best house built in Bridge Hampton within the last twenty-five years would be a heap of ruins if submitted to that test. In speaking of daily wages, we find every year repeated mention of reaping at 3 shillings a day, but an entry of August 3, 1767, attracts immediate attention. "To a day cradling oats 3s and 6d." Some one may say, "What is there remarkable about that? There is this remarkable: It is the first mention of any improvement in agriculture. The sickle had been used ever since the Jews came out of Egypt and doubtless long before that time. The grain cradle was invented by a Scotchman about 1762, and seems to have been introduced into this country before the date above mentioned. From the best information we can gain, a quarter of an acre was a fair day's work for a reaper, and it was found that a man with a cradle could do as much work as four or five men with the sickle. No improvement was

made in this work for nearly a hundred years, when the mowing machine made its appearance. It is all very well to read in poetry about

"The reapers reaping early,
In among the bearded barley."

But there is a great deal more real poetry in a grain cradle and infinitely more in a reaping machine.

The prices of things needed in daily use, and the amount used, tell a story of their own. In actual price many things were not much higher than they are now, but their relative price a great deal higher. A great deal is said at present about the high cost of living, but it is not so much because things are high, as because so many more things are wanted The only standard is what, and how much, can be had for a day's work?

Molasses was 2s 3d a gallon. Common brown unrefined sugar was 7 pence a pound, while loaf sugar only once mentioned, was 1 shilling 4 pence, or 16 cents a pound. Tea was 6 shillings and 6 pence a pound. It would take at least two days work to earn a pound. How is it now?

Everything that was raised here was cheap enough. Beef was 4d a pound. Cheese was 6 pence a pound. Turnips were 1 shillings 6 pence a bushel. The price of wheat was for a long period 6 shillings. A "gallon of oyle", cost 2 shillings and sixpence, nearly the amount of a day's work How is it now with refined kerosene at 12 cents a gallon? Butter was a shilling a pound. A good sheep could be bought for 10 shillings or a dollar and a quarter. Salt was 3 shillings 6 pence a bushel. Chocolate is occasionally mentioned, and it cost 6 shillings a pound. Half a pound of soap cost a shilling. No wonder every family made its own. It seems strange to find coffee costing only 1 shillings 4 pence a pound, but like tea it was sel-

dom used. Strange to say, we find no mention of tobacco, but snuff is mentioned once at 2 shillings 9 pence a pound or 34 cents.

Of eating and drinking, the article that is mentioned oftenest is rum, and the price was 4 shillings 6 pence a gallon. There was more money expended for that than for molasses, tea, coffee and sugar combined The man who kept the account book was a religious man in every sense of the word and abhorred drunkenness, but the amount he bought and sold was amazing. Gin was a shilling a pint, and good wine was 6 shillings a quart.

How did the people dress in those days and what did it cost them? Woolen and linen were the "Stand Bys." The wool and the flax were raised here and were cheap enough. Weaving seemed a regular price, whether it was linen, woolen or tow cloth, the price was 9 pence a yard. Women's wages were astonishingly low. In one case a woman spun 28 days at 7 pence a day. A farm laborer by the week had 15 shillings, or a little less than two dollars. A hired man on a farm had £24 or 60 dollars a year. A dollar a week for ordinary house work was good wages for a woman. A paper of pins cost 15 cents, and some of them are in existence to-day. Imported cloth of all kinds was very high. "Cloth for an apron" is mentioned as costing 11 shillings and 9 pence or 60 cents. "Five yards of calico for a gound for my wife", at 5 shillings a yard came to £1, 5s or $3. 13. This seems like rather a scant pattern. How happy some married men present would be if their wives could be made happy with a gown of that price, but unhappy the ladies would be if they had to work nearly a month to earn money enough to pay for one. A silk handkerchief cost 8 shillings. A pair of gloves came to 9s 9d, or $2.21. A "check handkerchief"

whatever that may be, cost 2 shillings six pence, almost a day's work.

In 1766 Francis Le Bau, "French taylor", appears on the scene. How a French tailor happened to drift to the east end of Long Island is not explained, but he soon found work. For making a flannel vest he had three shillings, and for making a "great coat" 7 shillings. It seems rather incongruous, that while it cost 4 shillings and 6 pence to make a pair of leather breeches, the buttons placed on them cost 6 shillings and 2 pence. A man at the present time would hardly have to work two days to buy buttons enough for his trousers. A good felt hat cost 19 shillings and six pence. Taking everything into consideration this was just about the same as if a common hat now would cost $8. A felt hat suitable for a slave to wear cost 4 shillings. Something more than he could earn by a day's work. The French tailor working three days and his apprentice for two days, together earned 15 shillings, or $1.88 Cloth for a great coat and trimmings cost £1,13s9d, or $4 21. This was probably home-made cloth. A laboring man would have to work more than a week to earn that.

It would hardly seem possible that under such circumstances much money would be spent for luxuries, but they did spend a good deal, and the principal expense was for silver ware and on that point we have abundant and explicit information.

Brass buttons for a coat cost 5 cents each. It was quite the fashion to have vest buttons of silver engraved with the initials of the owner. It might be called economy, for they would last forever and when one garment was worn out they could be placed on a new one.

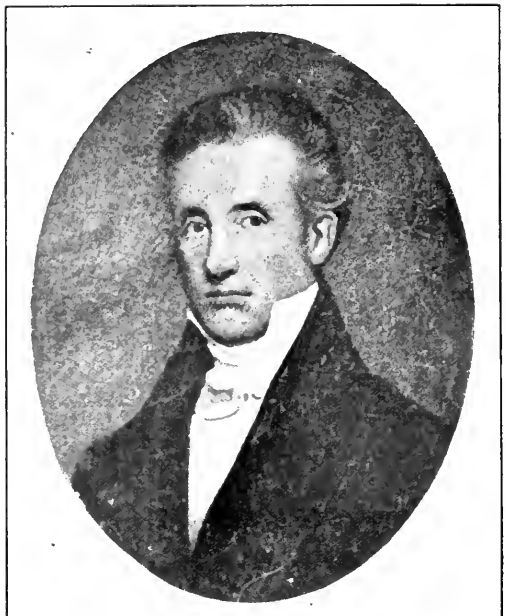
The names of Bridge Hampton people frequently appear and some from East Hampton; all good custo-

mers: Rev. Samuel Buel paid 15 shillings for repairing his cane, which had a silver head and ferrules. No doubt he presented a very dignified appearance as he walked the street with that same cane. Major Silas Cook had a scabbard made for his trusty sword and it cost him 8 shillings or a Spanish dollar. Capt David Mulford had a pair of silver shoe buckles at £1 13 shillings, 4 gold rings for £2,13 shillings and two strings of gold beads at £7, 12s, 11d, the whole being £11, 18s, 11d, or something over 30 dollars A very large bill for those times. While solid silver shoe buckles cost £1, 13s or $4.13, there was a cheaper kind called "copper plated" which only cost 5 shillings or 62 cents. Electro plating was then in the far distant future, but they had a way of placing a very thin piece of silver upon copper and fastening it. Cheap as it was, a man would have to work a day and a half to earn a pair.

Mr. Danlel Hedges had six table spoons made at a cost of £7, 9s, 6d and eight tea spoons costing £1 18s, 2d, the whole amounting to £9 7s, 8d, or in our currency $23.45. They were evidently of extra heavy weight. In actual cash the price is not very different from what the same articles could now be purchased at Gorham's or Tiffany's,but when we compare their cost with the prices current for articles and labor; we find a wonderful difference. To purchase the spoons they would require the labor of a man of the best wages for forty-seven days, and Mr. Daniel Hedges must have been a well-to-do man to pay such a sum.

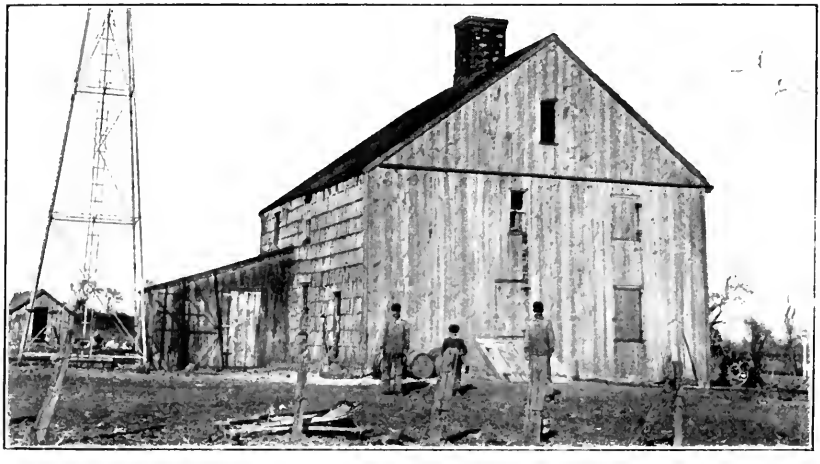
The account of Mr. David Corwithe is very plain. He ordered 6 table spoons which weighed 10 ounces, 16 pennyweight and 20 grains, which at 9 shillings, 4 pence per ounce for the silver came to £5, 1s, 2d. The "fashioning" or making came to £1, 4s. To this

was added 2 gold rings for £1, 11s, and six tea spoons for £1, 7 shillings. The whole in our money would be $22.89. A laboring man would have to work for over forty days to pay for them. It would be interesting to know if they are still in existence, and who owns them. Mr. Corwithe was a wealthy man and well able to pay for them. In 1773 Capt. Job Pierson and Lemuel Pierson had a silver can, six table spoons and six tea spoons, the whole weight being 29 ounces 6 pennyweights and 12 grains. The whole came to over $36.00. These seem like heavy bills to pay in the times of low prices. For female adornment gold beads were most desired and proud was the young girl who could obtain them. The regular price was ten dollars a string, but 2 strings of gold beads, of fifty-four beads each, came to $23.79. They were doubtless of extra size and weight, The making of twelve tea spoons cost 16 shillings or two dollars. In buying old gold, fifteen dollars an ounce was allowed, and for silver about $1.15 per ounce. But it is quite possible that the silver smith favored himself in the trade. By far the greater part of the silver ware was made from Spanish dollars reckoned at 8 shillings, and when perfect weighed 17 pennyweights. Capt. Hurlburt's silver hilted sword complete, cost him $12.30. Capt. Abraham Gardiner, who was a man of wealth, paid for a set of gold buttons for his wife £1, 17s, 4d, or $4.66, and for a mourning ring he paid $2.50, which was not extravagant. Occasional mentions are made of repairing watches, though they were not common in those days. They were almost exclusively the property of professional men, and added greatly to their dignity and importance, especially with a heavy seal attached. Only one mention is made that affords any clue to the price. In 1767 appears this notice; "I gave



Hon. Nathan Sandford.

Born in Bridgehampton Nov 5, 1777
Member and Speaker of the Assembly 1811
United States Senator 1815 - 1825
Chancellor 1823
Died Oct. 17, 1838

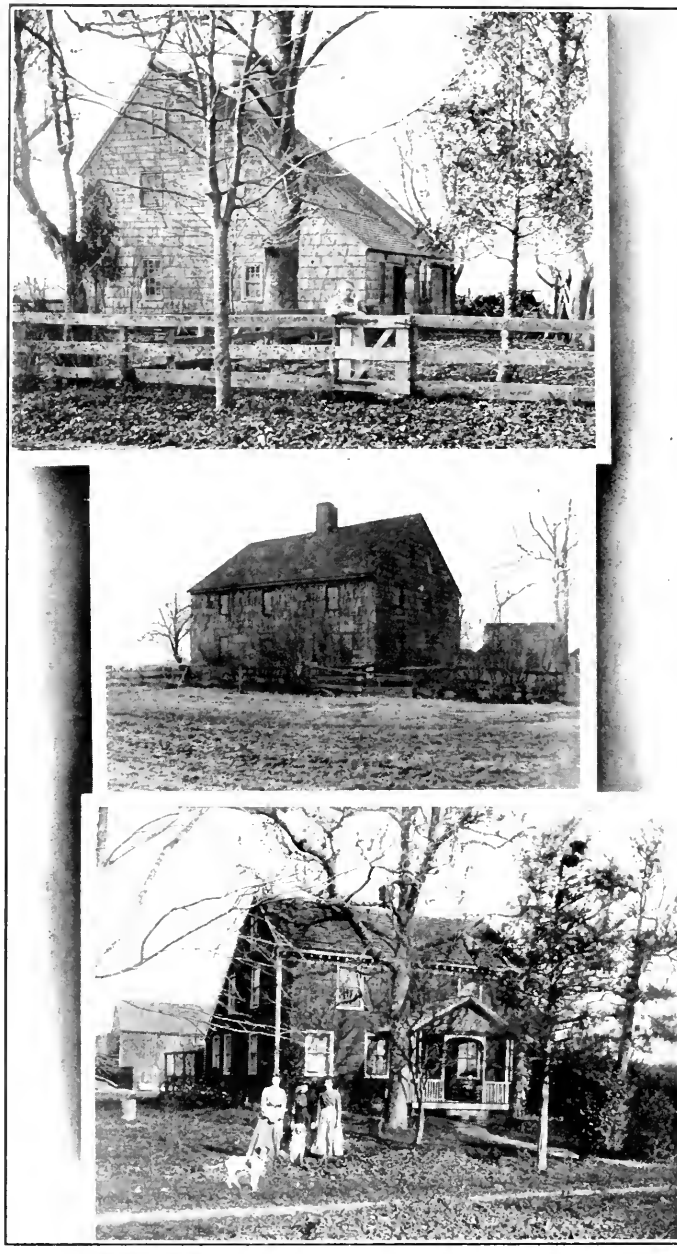


Home of Hon Nathan Sandford (Now owned by Pierce Butle )

my watch to Uriah Rogers for one month on trial. If he likes it he is to pay £7, and I am to take 40 shillings in goods." A watch then was worth $17 50 and very few men could afford one. When Thomas Sanford, Esq., sent a letter to New York in 1771, the postage was 1 shilling, 10 pence or 22 cents. Those were the good old times when everybody was happy.

The history of the church has been written by able hands, and the tenor of thought on religious matters in the early days is well known but we might add here what we may call an episode of Bridge Hampton. Some time since we met with a book, which at first we thought of sending to the library. Had we done so, the librarian (possibly forgetting to acknowledge the receipt) would have entered it in a card catalogue aud found a place on a shelf where it would have slumbered undisturbed, unless some accident should have brought it to notice. And yet more than a hundred years ago that book shook Bridge Hampton from centre to circumference It was at the time when the notorius Stephen Burroughs was the village school master. He might be described in a few words, as a man of good natural ability, willfully perverted, with a learning fully up to the times, and a sort of smartness that gave him influence among those with whom he came in daily contact. It was in a day when everything French was popular. Suppose to day it should be noised abroad that theHon. Judge Hedges had become a Mormon Elder and engaged in preaching and practicing the dogmas of that sect. Suppose it was reported that Squire Topping had become a long haired Anarchist and his good wife a lecturing suffragette. It is more than probable that it would create some commotion, but not so

much as when it was announced that Mr. Burroughs, the school master, was introducing infidel books into Bridge Hampton. Alarm and deep fear were aroused in the minds of Deacon Hedges and Minister Woolworth, and all the good people of the place who believed as they did, and they were the great majority. They saw through the man Burroughs, and justly feared his influence among a class of young people who knew nothing of the world beyond their native village. For we must remember that at that time, a journey to New York took longer than it now takes to go to St. Louis or Chicago To this class of young people and to some much older, Burroughs was a visitor from another sphere. His superior learning and his glib talk gained him an unmerited influence, and to fill up the cup of his iniquity, he was now introducing into a God fearing community books of French infidelity that would poison the minds, destroy the souls, and turn men from the faith of the fathers. The book that made this commotion was Volney's "Meditations upon the Ruins of Empires" better known perhaps as "Volney's Ruins' It was one of the most brilliant books ever written by a Frenchman, and it had the additional advantage of being translated into English by the help of Joel Barlow, and the translation was more brilliant than even the original. It was one of the many works published at that period which were expected to supplant the Scriptures and be recognized as an authority when the Bible should have been relegated to the realm of old wives' fables. But time tries all things. More than a hundred years have passed and to-day "Volney's Ruins" is simply a literary curiosity of a past age. It abounds in theories that have long since been exploded, and filled with reasoning that has long been proved fallacious. So far from being an authority, a scholar



Residence of Elisha O. Hedges
The Old Captain Austin House Formerly home of ancestors of Mrs. Russell Sage
Residence of L. Page Topping

would as soon think of quoting Jack the Giant Killer and it would be a much easier task to find two hundred Bibles in Bridgehampton than it would be to find two copies of "Volney's Ruins".

The question arises, would a copy of that book in the library be an injury and a detriment? We can only answer that by another illustration. Not long since we met with an ancient book on medicine. It was a very curious specimen of early printing and described almost all the diseases that human flesh is heir to, under names that have long since been obsolete, with the remedies for their cure. The first impression made by reading them was that if the disease did not kill the patient the remedy certainly would. Of all absurdities no greater could be found and yet it represented what was considered skill, in the dark ages. Now if this book were placed in the library, does anyone suppose that Doctor Mulford or Doctor Corwith would rise up in arms and denounce the sender as introducing works that threatened the health and lives of the villagers and their own practice as well Would they take any special pains to get it out of sight as dangerous to the community? On the contrary, they would be the first to read it and laugh over its absurdities. If any of our citizens should be taken with a dangerous disease would he hasten to consult the antiquated doctor book for a cure, or would he place his confidence in the well-known skill of the modern men of science? There is only one answer to this question The world has outgrown "Volney's Ruins" and the works like it, just as it has outgrown the specimen of quack medicine, and it is very doubtful if a copy of Thomas Paine's writing placed in the library today would do any more injury to the cause of religion, than the ancient doctor book would to the cause of medicine. While truth and religion, with the Bible for its basis, is one thing, infidelity has more phases than the moon, and the very same class of men who in Volney's time denied that Christ ever existed, or denounced him as an

imposter, are now ready to admit that he not only existed, but was the best of all good men,—almost as good as themselves. The class who attempt to improve the Bible generally succeed in proving that the time could have been employed to much better advantage in improving themselves by following its teachings.

A Sag Harbor politician was once asked the difference between Bridge Hampton and Southampton. His reply was, "In Bridge Hampton they have men, in Southampton they have grown-up boys." For some unaccountable reason, Southampton people never seemed to have an extreme admiration for that Sag Harbor politician, but after all we confess there was more truth than poetry in his remark. In Bridge Hampton the educated men stayed and gave a tone to the place; from Southampton they all went away and carried their tone with them Of twelve men who graduated from college not one remained in his native place, but their tone and talent whatever it might have been, went to other regions. There was no such galaxy of men as Judge Abram T. Rose, Judge Hugh Halsey, Gen. Abraham Rose, Col. Edwin Rose, Orlando Hand and Hiram Sandford. To tell the story of their lives would require a volume, each had some peculiar talent or ability or peculiarity that made him different from the rest. In a world which is an infinite diversity, where there are not two grains of sand or two blades of grass exactly alike, how can we expect to find two human beings exactly the same, From those we will select two, not because they were remarkable, but because they were representative of utterly distinct types In manners, morals, education, natural ability, habits of life, ends, aims and aspirations; where could two men be found so utterly different as Judge Abram T. Rose and Hiram Sand-

ford. We saw Mr. Sandford once. A man of middle height, the broadest shoulders we ever saw upon any human being, shoulders like those of an Atlas, able and ready to bear a world of care and labor, hair that was prematurely white, a weather beaten countenance that came from constant and unflinching contact with wind and weather. He never hastened and he never rested. He began to work as soon as he was old enough and he ceased only with his latest breath. A neighbor who knew him well, said, "Any man can get rich who is willing to pay the price and Hiram Sandford was willing." He accomplished his aims, he added field to field and herd to herd, and we ask the question, Was the gain equal to the price that he paid for it? He was the type of the plain, patient, plodding man.

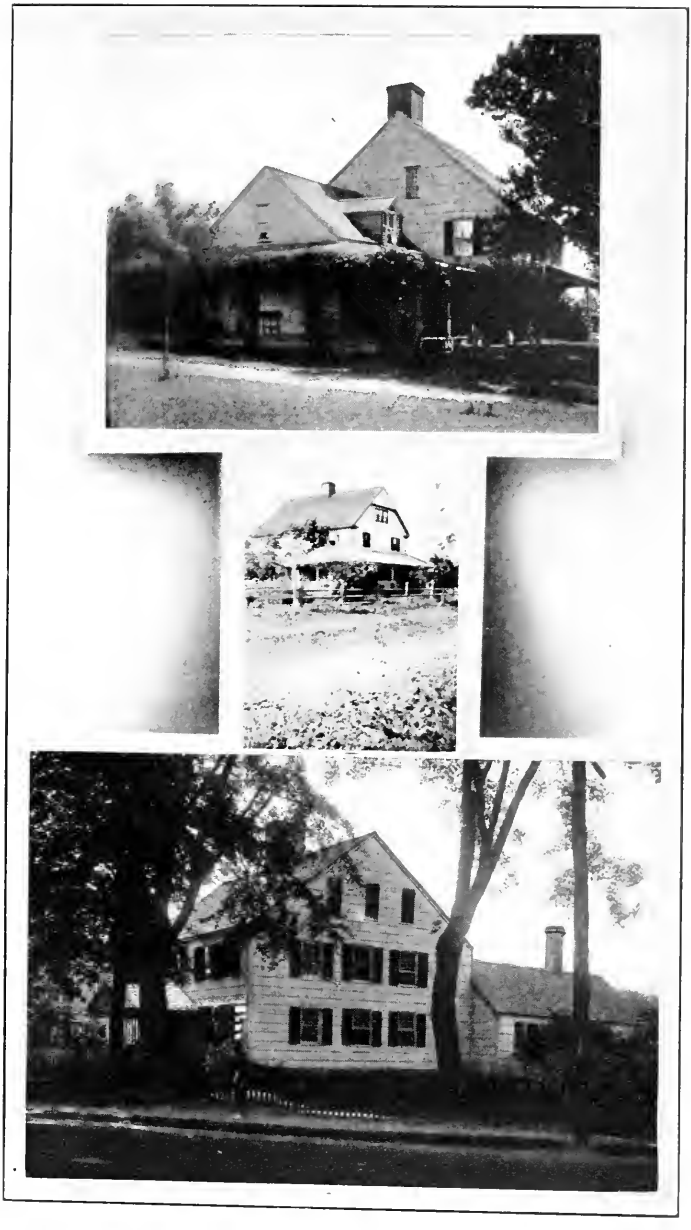
We never saw Judge Rose, but once, and then as a boy, at a town meeting. He was the type of the brilliant man, whether he was making a speech at a town meeting or pleading some insignificant case before a Justice of the peace, or an important cause before the Supreme Court, charging a jury or addressing a political convention, charming a circle of friends by his brilliant conversation, or vituperating his enemies. In whatever position he was placed he shone. Not long since we met with an elegantly engraved steel likeness. There is a period in every man's life when he looks his best, and it was at this period that the likeness was made It was a face that once seen could never be forgotten. Every feature told of intense thought, and the eyes—they were eyes that seemed to look into the very hearts of men. Suppose that every person present should be told, "you can take your choice," but you must choose at once and forever, for the rest of your life, be it long or short, you

must be Judge Rose or Hiram Sandford. Which will you choose. It would not be an easy question. It would require the deepest thought of the deepest thinker present. If the question was put to ourselves we should feel utterly unable to answer it.

It is enough to say that we are living in a world where there is place alike for the butterfly and the bee. Shall we despise the perfume of the rose or the bloom of the lily simply because they add nothing to the sum total of human wealth, and provide nothing for the support of human life? Shall we look with contempt upon the insignificant flowers of the corn or the grain, simply because they present to the eye no vivid form of beauty, when we know they feed and clothe the world and always will?

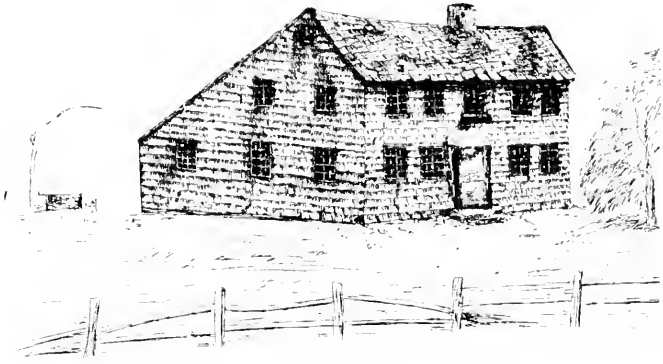
The Bible tells us that we are surrounded by an innumerable host of witnesses, and that host may be the spirits of those who had gone before, and among that host to-day may be Josiah Stanborough, and Henry Pierson, Wm. Barnes, Elnathan Topping, John Topping, Justice of the Peace, and their associates and successors, viewing their descendants and their deeds with all the interest of living beings

Homer, in his immortal poem, makes his great hero, Ulysses, descend into the unseen world, and there he meets the shades of men whom he knew in years long past; the heroes who went with him to fight at Ilion. There outward appearance was the same; in thought and mind unchanged; they were simply shadows and a shade. Their only longing was for the world they left. Achilles tells him that he had rather be the slave of the meanest man on earth than a king to the world below. Their condition might be told in one sentence. It was an everlasting existence of eternal uselessness. It is not in this way that we think of the spirits of our ancestors. We do not believe that they are like the shades that Ulysses saw in the world below, but we have faith to believe that somewhere they are living, an active and useful part of God's universe.



The Old Haines House. Now owned by Henry N Corwith
Residence of Charles A Ludlow, Erected in 1817
The Wick House, Now owned by Joseph M Briggs

# HISTORICAL PAPERS



Rev. Ebenezer White House (Torn down in 1856)

The Old Woolworth House (Now owned by Charles T. Ludlow)

# HISTORY OF THE MONUMENT AND CELEBRATION MOVEMENT

Nov. 5, 1909:—Notice given that a public meeting will be held later on to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the settlement of Bridgehampton. It is hoped that the celebration will be marked by the unveiling of a monument.

Nov. 15, 1909:—The surviving members of a committee consisting of D. Egbert Talmage, Egbert R. Bishop, Edward H. Dickinson, Addison M. Cook and G. Clarence Topping, appointed to solicit funds for the erection of a public monument to the memory of the soldiers and sailors who went from Bridgehampton and served in the wars of the country, called a meeting to be held on this date at Atlantic Hall to again consider the matter and at the suggestion of friends to also discuss in this connection the desirability of celebrating the 250th anniversary of the settlement of the village. At this meeting H. H. Chatfield was elected chairman and R. C. Hallock secretary. The Rev. Mr. Newman referred to the close social and business relations of the people among the residents of the region between Water Mill and Georgica and the hills and the ocean, to the change of conditions in the next few years, to the appropriateness of a celebration of the village's quarter-millenial and suggested a programme which might include a procession in which children, representatives of our institutions, all members of our societies in regalia, our firemen, the veterans of the civil war might march, headed by a band of music, discoursing patriotic airs. The Rev. Mr. Wilkins,of the Methodist Church,heartily endorsed the proposed celebration It was unanimously voted to hold such a celebration and a committee was appointed consisting of G. Clarence Topping, A. M. Cook

W. D. Halsey, Morgan Topping, Charles Rose, E. H. Dickinson, and C. H. Aldrich. It was the sense of the meeting that the celebration could be held without a monument memorial, but that the unveiling of a monument on the village green would be a most fitting culmination of the celebration services.

December 20, 1909:—The executive committee on Celebration appointed a Finance Committee as follows: Mr. and Mrs. William I. Halsey, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel O. Hedges, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Hildreth, Mr. and Mrs. William D. Halsey, Mr. and Mrs John E. Heartt, Mr. and Mrs Emil Twyeffort, Mr. and Mrs. James H. Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. George Strong and Egbert Seabury. The duties of this committee shall be to solicit funds for a soldiers and sailors monument and to provide for a suitable celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of the village.

December 31, 1909:—The Executive Committee on Celebration of the 250th anniversary of the settlement of Bridgehampton issued a call from which we quote: "As early as 1660 a settlement was made on the shore of Long Island which has developed into a community to which for convenience we give the name of Bridgehampton. The people of this locality have ever had peculiarly close relations and the old families are still largely represented among its present residents. In view of these facts it has been determined to celebrate in 1910 the 250th anniversary of the settlement of the place and as a convenient date for the celebration Monday, July 4th, has been selected. Appropriate religious exercises will be held on the Sabbath preceding. Bridgehampton has an honorable history of patriotic spirit and service (in three wars.) * * * In view of this history we have thought that a monument commemorating the tested virtues and valor of our people through generations should be dedicated as the culminating feature of the anniversary exercises We would have this stand for the ages to come as a stone of witness and appeal."

March 21, 1910:—The executive committee met and chose a design for monument. The monument to be of Barre granite, 17 feet high and weigh 25 tons.

# THE LEGACY OF OUR ANCESTORS

In the burying ground at Hay Ground are many silent sleepers that in their day witnessed stirring scenes and took active part in many of the great events of the past, that could we know them would be intensely interesting to this generation. * * * * * It may be quite as important to keep the memory of their service green in the country where they first saw the light, where they performed their life work, and where those of us living are reaping the benefits that their strong arms, determined wills, and undaunted patriotism bequeathed to us as a legacy of priceless worth, secured to us by unremitting toil, hardship and suffering.

## Soldiers of The Revolution

On adjoining farms at Hay Ground there lived in ancient times, two men, long since dead, whose lives are worth recording, if for no other reason than that they were soldiers in the struggle for liberty and independence, Without shoulder straps, men of the rank and file, they served under General Washington, and both survived the war and lived for many years and to a great age, each being upwards of ninety years of age at the time of his death and their bodies are buried so closely together in the graveyard at Hay Ground that on the resurrection morn they will be within easy speaking distance of each other. Capt. Sylvanus Halsey was born December 5, 1755, and died May 27, 1851. He served as a private soldier for about seven years or through the war. He was honorably discharged and paid off in continental currency, having when he came home about six hundred dollars of this paper. It was evidence of service if not evidence of pay and some of it is still in the possession of his descendants. After his retirement from

the regular army he was made a captain of militia. A little boy, I was taken, as was the custom of those days, to his funeral that was held in a most terrific thunder storm. The solemn scene, the vivid lightning, and the crashing thunder, made an impression on me never to be forgotten. The musket and bayonet that he carried through the war are still in existence, but do not compare favorably with the finished arms of to-day.

David Cook was born in 1720 and died December 15, 1814, in the 94th year of his age. He was at home on his farm during the greater part of the time the Hessian troops were in occupation of the island. His stock and farm produce were continually taken from him to sustain a hireling British soldiery. He tried to prevent this by taking his cattle to the north woods to a deep dell. There he went regularly all winter to feed and care for them, riding back and forth on the one horse he dared to keep at home; but one day a troop rode up, took his hay from the barn and demanded his horse; he told them they should not have it, then they began to threaten and he told them he was no more afraid of them than he would be of an old squaw with a broomstick. Then one of them attempted to run him through with his sword, but another caught his arm crying, "Would you kill that man?" "I would," said he, "if you had not caught my arm." They then began to coax, saying they only wanted the horse to go to Sagg and would bring it back, told him to let one of his boys get up behind and he could bring the horse back. So the horse was taken, the boy getting up behind the officer and so riding until they reached the hill where the Hay Ground mill now stands, when the boy was told to get off and tighten the girth. The rider then whipped up the horse and left the boy to walk home. * * So, the man, although about sixty

years of age, enlisted May 3, 1780, and served until the following December 6th in the 5th N.Y. Regiment of the line. He was and is to this day known among his descendants as "grandfather David." Three other soldiers of the revolution and perhaps still others lived in this vicinity, only one of whom, so far as I know, was buried here. I have been told that Stephen Talmadge lies in an unmarked grave in this old Hay Ground cemetery. Ethan Halsey, the elder, had two sons, Abraham and Thomas, who were soldiers in the war, but a careful search reveals no mark of a final resting place here.

## Soldiers of 1812—Hay Ground Men

Abraham Rose was born in 1765 and died August 22, 1843. He was a soldier and an officer in this war. In 1807 he was a Colonel; in 1808 a Lieut. Colonel, and in 1812 a Brigadier General, and in command of all the troops on the east end of the Island.

He was a man of admitted ability, and honored and respected by his generation. In times of peace he was a surveyor and the old instrument that he used is still in existence and held as a relic of antiquity of priceless value by his descendants. One very like this Washington used in his day. When the troops of Great Britain landed at Sag Harbor for the purpose of capturing and destroying the town, this man was in command of the militia that met the attack and made a successful resistance. I quote from an old diary of that distant day a few words that seem pertinent to this occasion. They were written under date of June 26, 1814: "We were returning from church and thought the first explosion the torpedo brought here last week. The firing is incessant, and seems louder and heavier than any we have ever heard before; the tremendous explosions of those deep mouth-

ed thunderers, jar the house, windows rattle; how near those messengers of death are we know not——we have yet remained safe from the destroying enemy; the past summer we have been frequeutly alarmed, and once the enemy landed at Sag Harbor, but were driven back by the militia stationed there; they soon, as they said, found themselves in a "hornets nest." Again from the same diary, under date Aug. 11, of the same year: "Twenty sail are said to be off Sag Harbor with six thousand troops, and we fear we shall yet be troubled with them. We daily lament the effects of this war, but when we lose our relations and friends, these lesser evils will be forgotten. We have some faint hopes of peace; yet the British, by the astounding revolution in Europe, have secured a peace with all other nations and can therefore turn all their strength and force against us."

Dr. Rufus Rose, a brother of Gen. Abraham, was born March 19, 1775, and died June 9, 1835, and was a surgeon of militia. He acquired his education as a physician under the professor attached to Columbia University of the City of New York, and practiced at Bridgehampton from 37 to 40 years. He was a man of literary tastes and ability; by nature refined and patriotic, and had the development of the young nation at heart, giving to this matter the most undivided and constant attention. When the attack on Sag Harbor began, he was teaching school in the old Hay Ground school house. When the guns at Sag Harbor began to boom, one a minute for three miuutes, then silence for three minutes, then one a minute again and so on, the doctor dismissed his school and, as an eye-witness told me, took the longest steps he ever saw taken up the Hay Ground hill, going east and toward Sag Harbor. Soon the minute guns at Bridgehampton and Southampton, and westward also, be-

gan to thunder their call for troops and all the roads were soon filled with hurrying soldiers, all converging toward one point—Sag Harbor Some on foot, some on horse back, some in farm wagons and some in ox-carts, but all in great haste and under intense excitement, some getting into their uniforms as they went. The booming of the minute guns, the masses of soldiers rushing through the streets, the weeping women bidding adieu to husbands, the squeaking of fife and rattle of the drum, combined to create a scene never to be forgotten by those who were witnesses.

Elisha Halsey was born Sept 11, 1776, and died Oct 20, 1859, and was drummer for his company. When he reached Sag Harbor, he was ordered out into the street near the head of the wharf to call his company to form in line of battle. The enemy had already landed and held possession of the wharf and were firing cannon up the street. Limbs were falling from the trees, solid shot was screaming overhead; houses were being shattered and pandemoniom reigned generally, and the old man who played for me on the very drum he then carried, told me that when, in obedience to the orders of his superior, he stepped out into the street, every hair seemed to stand up straight on his head, and his hat on the top of them.

Col. Edwin Rose was born at the old homestead in Hay Ground, in Bridgehampton, February 14, 1807, and died suddenly at Jamaica, L. I., while Provost Marshall of the first Congressional District of N. Y., on the evening of January 12, 1864, from disease of the heart, contracted while in the service of his country in the army of the Potomac, and this was the cause of his resigning his command at Harrison's Landing, Virginia.

He died as he had wished to die, in the uniform of

his country's service; after an hour's sickness, surrounded by many friends, he quietly dropped asleep.

Col. Rose was the son of Dr. Rufus Rose, long known and loved as the "family physician" in this locality and was directly descended from one of the original settlers of Southampton, N. Y. The subject of this sketch was appointed a cadet at the military academy at West Point and entered that institution in June 1826, graduating therefrom in the class of 1830 and was at once commissioned and assigned to duty in the Third artillery, U. S. A.

His first duty was at Fort Trumbell, in the harbor of New London, Conn., where in 1832, he married a daughter of General Jirah Isham, a leading lawyer of that state.

During seven years of service in the regular army, he was at Charleston Harbor, South Carolina, under Gen. Winfield Scott, at the time of the nullification trouble. He was stationed at Fort Dearborn, Ill., the site of the present city of Chicago, and was with the army in the prosecution of what is known in history as the Black Hawk war, being in at the capture of the Indian chieftain. Subsequently, in 1836, he was actively engaged with a battalion of his regiment in the prosecution of the Seminole war, in Florida. He was also detailed as topographical engineer and surveyed the shores of Lakes Huron and Michigan. He resigned his commission in 1838, and entered the service of the Territory of Michigan, making the preliminary survey for what is now known as the Michigan Central Railroad; located the capital at Lansing and performed other similar work for that territory. Returning to the old homestead in Bridgehampton, in 1840, for twenty years he was a prominent factor in the affairs of his town and county, occupying the positions of School Commissioner, Justice of the

The Ezekiel Sandford Homestead

Residence of John Wilkes Hedges

(Built and occupied by Deacon David Hedges in 1810)

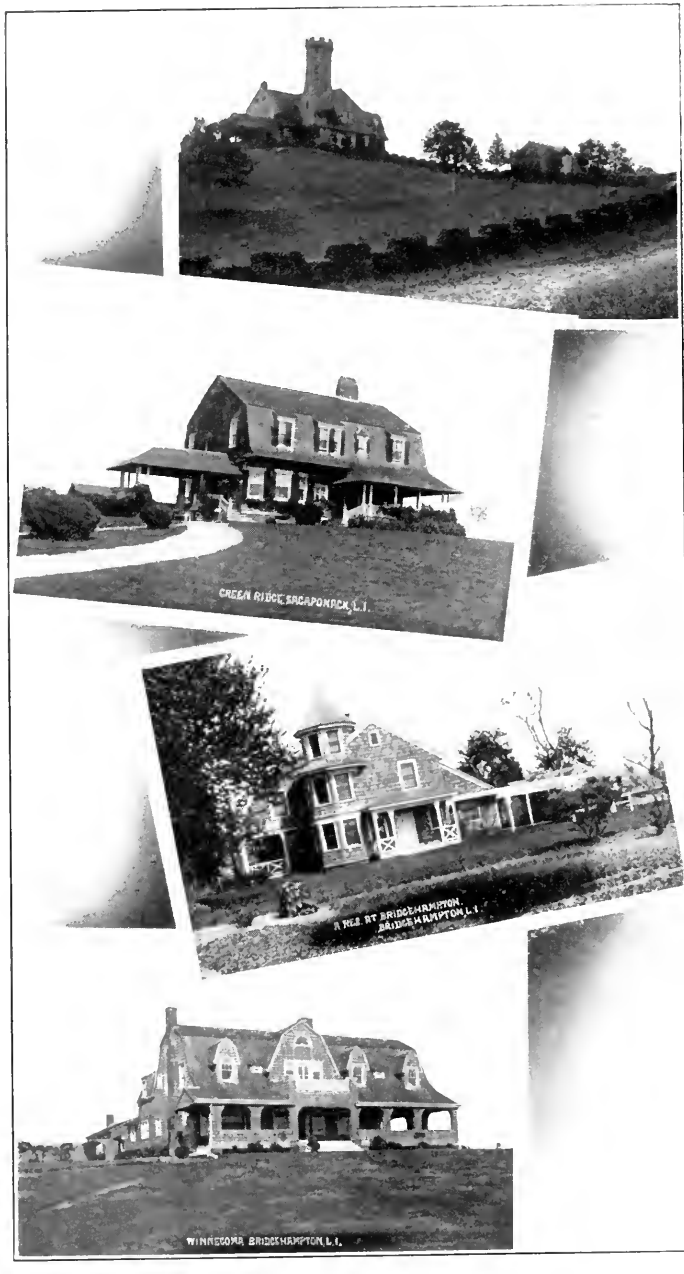
Peace, Supervisor, and in 1848, 1849 and 1857, representing Suffolk county in the State Legislature, at Albany. At the outbreak of the Rebellion, he offered his services to the government in a military capacity, and was commissioned Colonel of the 81st N. Y. Vol., then being organized at Oswego, N. Y. With his regiment, he participated in the McClellan Peninsular campaign, at one time commanding the brigade of which his regiment was a part. His health became broken on account of exposure incident to that disastrous campaign, and he was forced to resign his command and again retire to private life. When the Provost Marshall General's Bureau was established by Act of Congress, March, 1863, for the purpose of enrolling the military force of the country and replenishing the army in the field. President Lincoln appointed Col. Rose Provost Marshall of the Long Island District, with headquarters at Jamaica. The duties of that important position he performed with signal ability until his death. These are the salient points of the career of the man, after whom Edwin Rose Post, No. 274, Department of N. Y., G. A. R., is named.

He did not live to an advanced age, but from early manhood to the day of his death, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, his life was an active one, both in civil and military affairs. The particulars of the public life of Col. Rose were given to the writer by friends, at his most earnest request, and he wishes here to acknowledge his indebtedness. The writer, although only a boy when this man died, well remembers him, and desires to render his humble tribute to his memory. He was kind to boys, and that is something that speaks well for any man, and when the once boys become silver-locked men, they remember the kindness shown in youth; they never

forget. The Colonel used to ride back and forth, day after day, past the house of the writer to his peach orchard in the north woods, and in the season of the harvest; would throw peaches at him from the loaded wagons; he knew what a boy loved, and thought enough about it to satisfy the boy's longings, and although it may never have occurred to him that the boy would remember after more than half a century, he has. He was a good, kind-hearted man, thoughtful of others; the boy of other days firmly believes this, so firmly that nothing can ever shake his belief. One incident of the war time is not forgotten either. I was at Sag Harbor with my father and met the Colonel there. He was then commander of the 81st Regiment, N. Y. Vols. He put his hand upon my shoulder, and turning to my father said: "If he were only a little older I would have him with me." How the words made my boyish heart swell and the patriotic fire to burn within me. Were the world filled with men like him it would be a better place in which to live; his influence was always exerted for good, never for evil.

## Mecox

Among the first settlers here were Ezekiel Sandford, Jeremiah Halsey, Anthony Ludlum, John Cook and Arthur Howell. Directly descended from the last named was Colonel Levi. A long line of men of the name prominent in public affairs, in this town, preceeded him; and although the last of his line he was by no means the least, and to let this occasion pass without directing attention for a moment to this deserving man would be a manifest neglect if not rank injustice. Levi Howell was born in 1781 and died March 8, 1863, just when the Civil War was in full swing. When this war broke out he




"Dulce Domum," Residence of Mrs. John L. Gardiner
"Greenridge," Summer Residence of John Deshler
Summer Residence of B. H. Vail
"Winnecoma," Summer Residence of J. C. Sherlock

prophesied, as I remember, it would be as it turned out to be, a terrific conflict. Descended from a long line of men, prominent in the settlement of this township and of the one named above, of the settlement of this locality in particular, he is deserving of notice here. In person tall and commanding, six foot and upward in height, yet he was, as he said himself, the smallest of three brothers, resolute and determined in character; intelligent, intellectual, by nature refined and generous, both he and his father before him bestowed upon the poor with lavish hand the wealth with which God had blessed them. The hungry and naked were never turned from their door, for they believed they were their brothers keeper

He built and occupied in his life-time the house where his great-nephew, Nathan T. Rose, now resides, and it is the third dwelling built upon this spot and owned by the descendants of Arthur Howell. David, the father of Levi, was a military man, a captain of the 1st company of the 2d Regiment of Suffolk County militia, of which David Mulford was Colonel, and his commission bears date of Sept. 13, 1775. Perhaps the son inherited something of the father's military ability, for he served faithfully during the war of 1812 He was an ensign in 1810 He was a Lieutenant of the 80th N. Y. Regiment of Infantry in 1813 and captain of a company of the same regiment in 1816; major in the same regiment in 1821; Lieutenant Colonel in the same regiment with rank from August 23, 1824 His commissions are all preserved and in the hands of his nearest relatives and friends His is a great and honorable record. This man for fourteen years steadily rose in rank in the same regiment from a subordinate position to be its chief commander. When a Lieutenant he was stationed at Sag Harbor, one of the garrison there

when the assault was made upon that place. He never married, but he retained and lived in the home of his ancestors to the end of his days; loved by all, respected by all; as many have said and as many more believe, without an enemy. The writer remembers him in his advanced age perfectly and they are only pleasant memories. Although crippled with rheumatism, bent nearly double, going upon two canes, and very slowly at that, suffering agonies of pain at times, so that his bones started from their sockets, yet he seemed ever cheerful, ever pleasant, always desiring to please; thoughtful of others welfare, forgetful of his own. This was Colonel Levi Howell as the writer remembers him, his very presence impressed one with a sense of power, one instinctively felt him to be a good man, one thoroughly to be trusted, one safe to tie to. More than this I may not say, less I cannot and be just to him. Men of the old school are passing, have passed, soon like him all will be only memories. Shall we let even these slip, until nothing remains, not even memories of the men and women who have lived and struggled and died? The writer thinks it unchristain, even heathenish, so to do; but believes it the duty of the living to keep at least the memory of the deserving dead alive If we can leave behind such impressions as many who have gone before have done, some good may be done and our lives not have been lived in vain.

## The Old Haines House

By the records of this Town it appears that what is there spoken of as the "Forty Acre Division" of land, was laid out in 1678 and the action of the "layers out" was ratified by a town meeting held June 25. 1679. It further appears that four of these lots were

on the west side of Long Pond, and that they were numbered from one to four northward from "East Hampton path," and the records also show that number four was not drawn for because "already taken". Upon this lot, as near as can be ascertained, stands a house that was built in 1679. This conclusively appears by marks upon the plate in the southwest corner of the upstairs room; and directly below that date are these words and figures: "built (or rebuilt) by James Haines 1779." Formerly it was of the "long roof" pattern as was very plain from the cut of the rafters and posts, face to the south, long roof to the north, as was the custom. When it was rebuilt by James Haines it was altered to two full stories.

The Haines family had always owned this house and lot and lived here since white men first claimed individual ownership, until five or six years ago. They did not know exactly the age of the house, but knew it was over two hundred years.

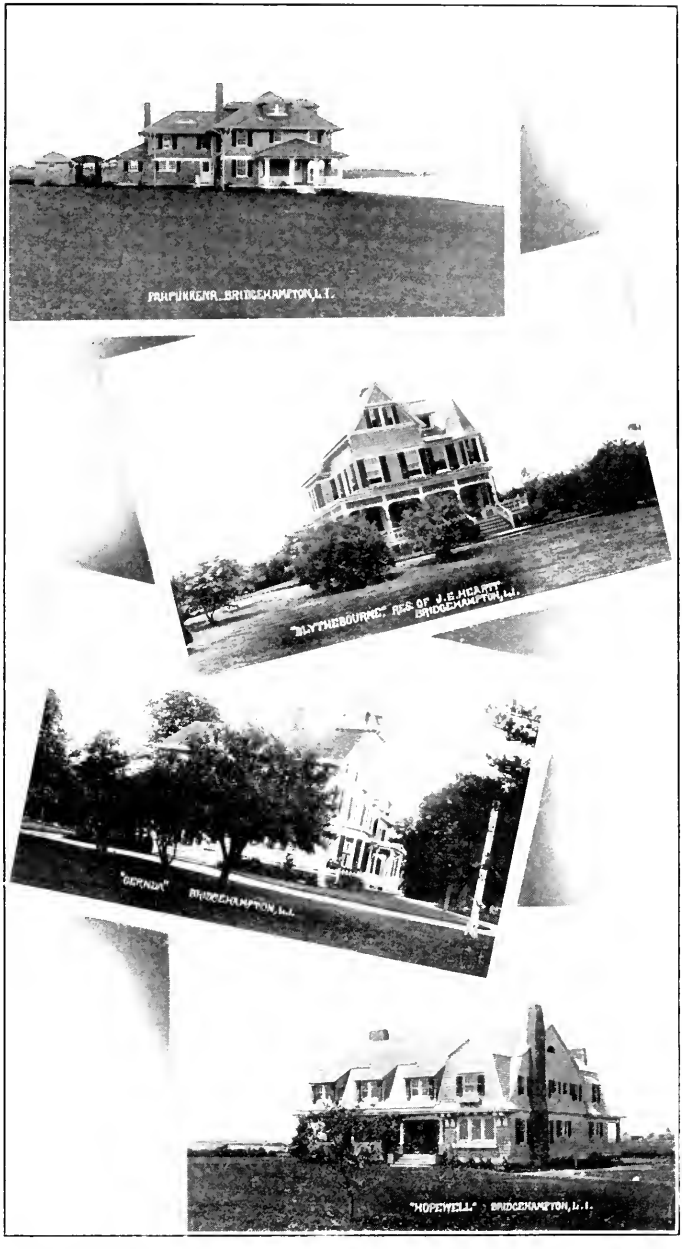
The property was sold to Wm. Collins about five years ago and after being in possession something like a year he sold to Henry N. Corwith. When Mr Corwith began to repair the old house the above figures came to the light. The building has been thoroughly overhauled and restored and is now in condition to last another century at least. A great part of the old frame of 1679 still remains staunch and strong apparently as ever, showing what resistance to the hand of time can be put forth by the native oak of Long Island forests, for this old frame was hand hewed from the forest about. Its walls were of shell lime burned here, and this shell lime mortar covered a dried mud-mortar wall that had been laid upon hand split lath. The chimney was immense with several fire places. The one in the kitchen of enormous size, in which great logs could be and were burned. Huge

hooks and tramels hung from massive crane in or within its cavernous mouth.

A brick oven, with its opening in the back of the fire-place, was suggestive of the delicious odor of baked meats, bread, pies, cake and other pastry, that for two centuries and more had issued weekly upon baking day from its blackened but odorously attractive and capacious mouth. It had sustained generations of people, old and young, bearing the name of Haines, and given generous cheer to numerous neighbors and friends that from time to time there gathered Here, Col. David Haines fed his company of soldiers that had marched up from Sag Harbor in the war of 1812; and here, no doubt, the earliest ministers of the gospel in Bridgehampton were also entertained, for the Colonel was a church elder, and that James (his grandfather) who rebuilt the house in 1779 was a deacon. Not far from this spot and on the farm was interred the body of minister Brown, (lately removed)

Now, the old house in a new and more modern dress, shelters another generation of a different name

ADDISON M COOK




"Pahpuhkina," Summer Residence of William Wiley
"Blythebourne," Summer Residence of John E Heartt
"Gernda" Summer Residence of Mrs Marcel Kahle
"Hopewell," Summer Residence of F V Clowes

# THE PIERSONS AND PIERSONS HOUSES

When I wrote out some papers I have in my possession my object was to trace the Pierson line down to my grandaughter, Bessie H. Strong,and my brother George A. Hildreth's children. I paid no attention to the side lines as I had no intention of ever writing anything for publication.

I suppose that no one doubts that Henry Pierson was one of the first settlers of the town of Southampton and that he was Town Clerk for many years. He died in 1681. His wife was Mary, daughter of John Cooper, another of the early settlers of the town. They had five children: one Henry, born 1652.

Col. Henry Pierson, born 1652, died 1701, He was an officer of Colonial troups holding a commission of Lieutenant Colonel from the Earl of Belmont, Captain General and Governor of the Province of New York. His wife was Susannah, daughter of Major John Howell.

Col Henry Pierson and Susannah Howell Pierson had six children; John, born 1685, died 1705; David, born 1688, Theophilus born 1690, died 1742; Abraham, born 1693; Jonah, born 1695, died 1776; Job, born 1697, died 1738. Job must have been four years old when his father died.

At what time Col. Henry Pierson came to Sagaponack to live it is hard to determine. In 1679 he exchanged land on the west of Sagaponack pond with George Harris for what is generally called the Job Pierson farm. Here, I always supposed was his home, but those old papers found in the Engle house, appear to throw some doubt upon it.

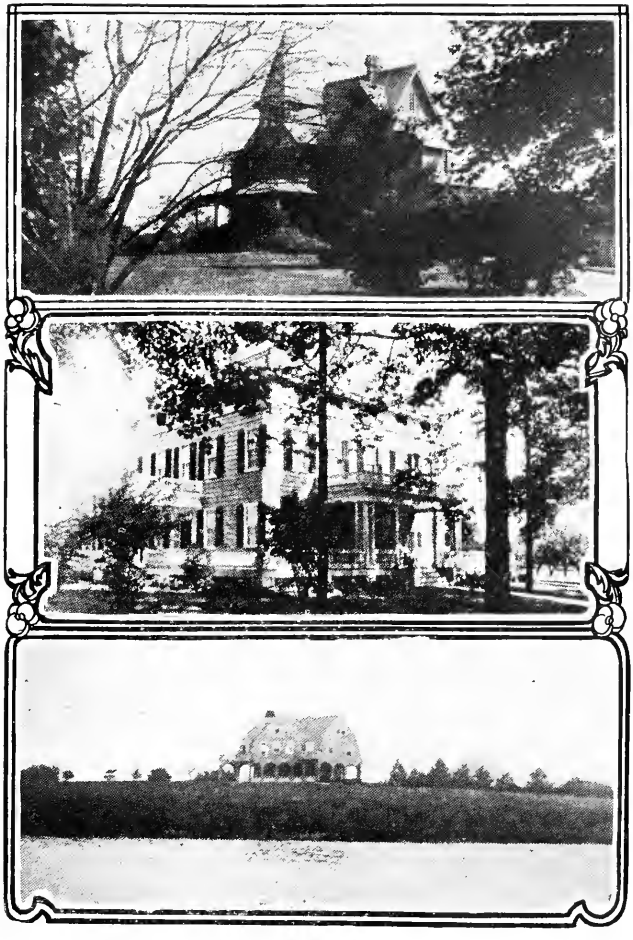
What time Col. Pierson came in possession of the Engle place, I have been unable to determine.

When the Rev. Ebenzer White bought his

place of Jonas Wood and wife in 1695, it was bounded north by Henry Pierson. The same year (1695) James Hildreth sells to Edward Howell 8 acres on the corner of Daniel's and Fairfield lanes, bounded north by Daniel Sayre and west by Henry Pierson; so we see this place at this time did not go across east to Fairfield lane.

Col. Pierson might have drawn a lot at the Engle place and built his house there instead of at the Job Pierson place. In 1686 he bought 60 acres of the town, which 60 acres was laid out on the north side of Parsonage Lane, with Christopher Leming and Robert Norris on the west. In 1693, he bought of Peregrin Stanbro a 40-acre division according to the deed found in the Engle house. This lot included the farm of Alfred C. Hildreth and extended north to L P. Topping's north lot. Christopher Leming removed to New Jersey and Col. Pierson bought his place and probably part of Robert Norris's land. This brought his land down to Sagg street.

In the distribution of Col. Pierson's land the Stansborough lot appears to have fallen to Theophilus and Job. Theophilus had the south part; his son Nathan, built the main part of the house; the wing has been added since my memory. Nathan Jr., married Lucy Howell, an aunt of Squire Hervey Howell and went to Richmond, Mass., where he went into the tannery business and died worth $100,000, which was considered a great deal of money in those days He left his property to his daughter, Catherine, who was quite a business woman; they used to call her Lawyer Kate. She increased the property mauy thousand dollars, and when she died, about twenty years ago, scattered it around among her relatives. Quite a slice of it came to Poxabogue, to her mother's kindred



"Tremedden" Summer Residence of Mrs A R Esterbrook
"Carwytham," Summer Residence of Henry N Corwith
"Rusticana" Summer Residence of Emil Twyeffort

Abraham Pierson had the Christopher Leming place. The house stood near where Hiram S. Rogers' tenant house now stands. His gaandson, John Pierson, traded the place with Capt. Lodowick Post for the Edward G. Sayre place. David Pierson had land next to Robert Norris.

Josiah Pierson had the north part of the 60-acre lot east of Robert Norris' land, and it did not come to the street. In 1618, Josiah Pierson made a trade with the town whereby he got 3 acres of common land north of Nathan Norris' land (where N P. Halsey's buildings now stand) giving in exchange a like quantity on East Hampton path, out of the land that was Nathaniel Howell's, who was a brother of Josiah Pierson's mother. Perhaps it would be well to give some account of this lot of land where N. P. Hand built Col. Henry Pierson's house, about 1680. Perhaps Col. Pierson did build the Engle house, or the Job Pierson house about 1680.

In an allotment made 1712, after laying out the land between Bull's Head and Huntington path and some others, they went east to Paugasabogue, by East Hampton and laid out the road on both sides of the path; the lot in question being lot No 26. It fell to Nathaniel Howell and we suppose he let his nephew, Josiah Pierson, have it. The town held 3½ acres along the whole front until 1763, when it was laid out as amendment No. 50, so the house could not have been built until after 1763

Josiah Pierson built north of Robert Norris and here he had his four wives and seventeen children. His third wife was Martha Halsey. She had twelve children, only three of whom, Matthew, Silvanus and Timothy, we are interested in.

Matthew Pierson, born 1725, died 1798, and wife, Phebe, daughter of Samuel More, had a son, Henry,

born 1758, died 1819. His wife was Phebe Mulford, of East Hampton. He went to Richmond, Mass., in 1799, where his grandson, Joseph, now lives. Another, Henry, lives in Pittsfield, Mass

Matthew had also a son, Silas, who married Betsey Brown, granddaughter of the Rev. James Brown. They had six sons and one daughter. Four of the sons married, but had no children The daughter, Caroline, married George A. Hildreth, and died a few weeks ago leaving three sons and three daughters.

Silvanus Pierson, born 1725, died 1785, married Rebecca Lupton, daughter of David Lupton, of Boston. They had four daughters, one of whom, Margaret, married John Jermain and they had eight children.

Rebecca Jermain married Alden Spooner, editor of the Suffolk Gazette. Julia Ann Jermain married Nathaniel S. Prime, D. D. Margaret Jermain married Joseph Slocum and was the mother of Mrs Russell Sage.

Timothy Pierson, born 1731, had a wife, Martha daughter of Edward Howell. He had two daughters, Mary, mother of Silas Hand, and Susie, who was bedridden for over 40 years. He kept a store and tavern on the corner where L. P. Topping now lives and afterwards, according to tradition, built the house on East Hampton street. The house was not built in 1680 and not until after 1763, with, according to tradition, the pirates gold

Job Pierson, youngest son of Col. Henry, born 1697, died 1738. He had wife, Hannah, and son, Lemuel Pierson, born 1722, died ------, wife Elizabeth and son, Samuel, born 1753, died 1838. Wife, Jerusha, daughter of Elisha Conkling, of Wainscott. Samuel Pierson had a son, Lawyer Job Pierson, whose heirs still hold the title of the farm at Saga-

ponack, that Col. Henry Pierson bought of George Harris in 1678. Samuel Pierson had a daughter, Joannah, who married Ebenezer White and was the mother of Alonzo White, the great grandfather of Bessie Hildreth Strong Another daughter, Mary, married Huntting Pierson, grandfather of Mary and Hattie Pierson, the only ones now bearing the Pierson name in Sagaponack.

I think that Lemuel must have had a son, William, who was grandfather to Mrs. Josiah Rogers, and great, great-grandfather of Edwin Pierson, the leather merchant, of Bridgehampton, who bears the Pierson name. It is related of Col. Henry Pierson that when he was a member of the Colonial Assembly, he had an altercation with another member who drew his sword upon him. Col. Pierson defended himself with his cane and succeeded in flooring his opponent. This cane is now in possession of Henry Pierson, of Pittsfield, Mass.

CHARLES H. HILDRETH.

# MORE ABOUT THE OLD PIERSON PAPERS FOUND IN SAGAPONACK, APRIL, 1909,

In making alterations in the interior of William C. Engle's summer residence at Sagaponack, on April 8, 1909, a small tow cloth bag was found concealed beneath the attic floor, which contained a number of ancient deeds and other writings These are the papers referred to by Mrs. Engle in the following article.—J. E. H

The only Henry Peirson referred to in these papers is Henry Peirson, 2nd, usually spoken of as the Lieut. Colonel. Owing to a mistake, his title is incorrectly given in one of the previous articles The two earliest papers originally belonged to him

One of these, dated the ninth of March, 1692–3, is the deed already mentioned of thirty-six acres of land sold by Peregrine Stanbrough to Henry Peirson in consideration of the sum of forty-six pounds in current silver money, at a place commonly called Sagaponack, as it is now bounded and marked, which is as followeth: The south side of it being bounded with a highway and lyeth about one hundred and twenty-two poles long—the west end is bounded with Sagg swamp and the brook of water in ye swamp and lyeth about fifty-four poles long from the south side to a marked Red oak tree by the swamp side, the north side is bounded with my land, the line being about eighty poles long, which runs from the aforesaid Red oak tree by the swamp side forward to a marked white oak tree on the east side of the land (here several words are illegible) which runs from the corner of Capt. Elnathan Topping's land seventy poles long.

Signed, Peregrine Stanbrough.

Witnessed by Josiah Stanbrough and Theodore Peirson.

Most of this description has already been published by Mr. Pelletreau and the exact location of the land has been given by him and others. The highways south and east are said to be the road from Sagaponack to Bridgehampton and the road from Sagaponack to Sag Harbor at the school house corner.

The paper on which this deed is written, is still strong and unbroken. The ink is much faded but legible except where it has been water soaked. As it is the only one of the papers so injured, this probably occurred before it was placed with the others. The acknowledgement upon this deed made before "Test. Matthew Howell, Justice" is so remarkably preserved, that a description of this deed is incomplete without some mention of it. Although it had been written 216 years when found, the writing was as clear and the ink as black as if written within a few weeks. The deed is marked "Entered in ye Town Book of Records in page 297, "Test. Christopher Foster Clark."

The other Henry Peirson paper is a bill of sale of a negro man by Dorcas Jones, of New York. A copy of this may be interesting.

"Know all men by these presents, that I, Dorcas Jones, of New York, have sold unto Henry Pierson, of Southampton, his heirs and assigns, a negro man about eighteen or twenty years of old, named Midley, such sale I Binde Myself, my heirs, executors and administrators to make good; for and in consideration whereof I Do acknowledge to have Received the full sum of fourty pounds in good curant silver mony as full satisfaction.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 24th day of October 1694.

Signed, Dorcas Jones, (S. T. B)
Witnis, Matthew Howell, Simon Bonan

The next ten papers belonged to Lieut Col. Henry Peirson's son, Theophilos Peirson. Mr. Pelletreau has pubiished abstracts of most of them in the News, locating the land described in each as far as possible. There is little left to write about them, but each paper contains a suggestion or reminder of the times when they were written, which may be of interest to some. Arranged in order of their dates and with the label written on the back of each, they are as follows;

1712. "David Peirson Bill of Sale" to Theophilus Peirson.

"One fourth part of the home lot of Henry Peirson deceased and one quarter Part of the housing and fencing thereon standing at a place known by the name of Bridge Hamton." Price 44 pounds. This is one of the deeds referred to in a previous article and describes the property where the papers were found.

1712-13 "Isaak Halsey Bill of Sale to Mr. Ebenezer White, Susana Peirson, Theophilus Peirson and Peter noris." To each of these "one sixth of two loots of land at Huntington."

Was this Mr. White the minister and is that the reason he alone is given the title Mr.? In this date as in that of the first deed is a reminder of the "Old Style" reckoning. The year seems to have been written in this way between January 1st and March 25th for some time after the "New Style" reckoning was adopted.

1717. "A deed of Sale from Josiah Peirson To Theophilos Peirson."

"One quarter part of all my father's home lot houseing and barn standing thereupon" "at a place commonly known by the name of Sagabonack." Price paid 44 pounds,

This is another deed already written of, in which a share of the house and home lot of Lieut. Col. Henry Peirson is conveyed to his son, Theophilus and describes the property where the papers were found:

1722, "Jonoh Rogers his Deed of Sale to Theophilos Peirson."

One acre of the great meadow, 13 pounds,

The date of this deed is written "This Twentieth Day of September, in ye ninth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George by the grace of God King of Great Britta'n &c—Anno: Domi 1722."

The earlier deeds contain no reference to the English Sovereign except in the signature of one Justice. Were the colonist compelled during the reigns of George 1 and George 11 to add these expressions of loyalty to their legal papers, while for them oppression was growing unbearable?

1723. "Coppie of Will of Capt. Joseph More." In this quaint old will, much of which was published by Mr. Pelletreau last spring. Theophilos Peirson is named one of the executors.

1725. "John Mulford Juna, his Bill of Sale" "Twelve acres of land lying in ye eastern plain of ye township of Easthamton" 38 pounds.

In this deed, which is neither witnessed or acknowledged, Long Island is given its legal name, the Island of Nassau: "I, John Mulford Juner, of the town of Easthamton in the County of Suffolk on ye island of nassau in the province of New York" Dated "This nineteenth day of may in the Eleventh year of the Reign of our sovereign Lord King George of great Brittain franz and Ireland. Defender of the faith and in ye year of our Lord God anoy d 1725"

On the back of the deed are memaranda of a number of days work done "agiting loges" and "giting pine logs." "Our boys" are mentioned and "Samuel

Hudson's negro 1 day and 3 shillings."

1726. "The Estate of Mr. John Mulford Deceased his anoth from John Makie."

This itemized bill covers several long pages. There are one hundred and nineteen items. "Tottal 21 pounds 11 shillings."

Among the items---fever drops, hysteric drops, cordial---occur many times; also anodine drops, spts Hartshorn, Sal Amoniac, port, treacle and "For the children a large bottle of cordial Jalap." Each call is charged 6 shillings and it is sometimes stated which member of the family was called upon.

1728. "Josiah Topping His Bill of Saile to Theophilos Peirson."

One acre and a quarter of land "at a place comanly called Fairfield." 11 pounds. Dated "this first day of March in the first year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord Gorg ye Second King of great Briton and in ye year of our Lord God 1728."

1731, "Joab Peirson His Bill of Sail" "One loot of meadow lying and being at a place called and known by the name of the greater Meadowes in this Town Ship and it is called by the name of Whites Loot" 10 pounds 5 shillings. Dated "The eleventh Day of December in ye fifth yere of ye Reign of King George ye second and ye year annoy dom 1731."

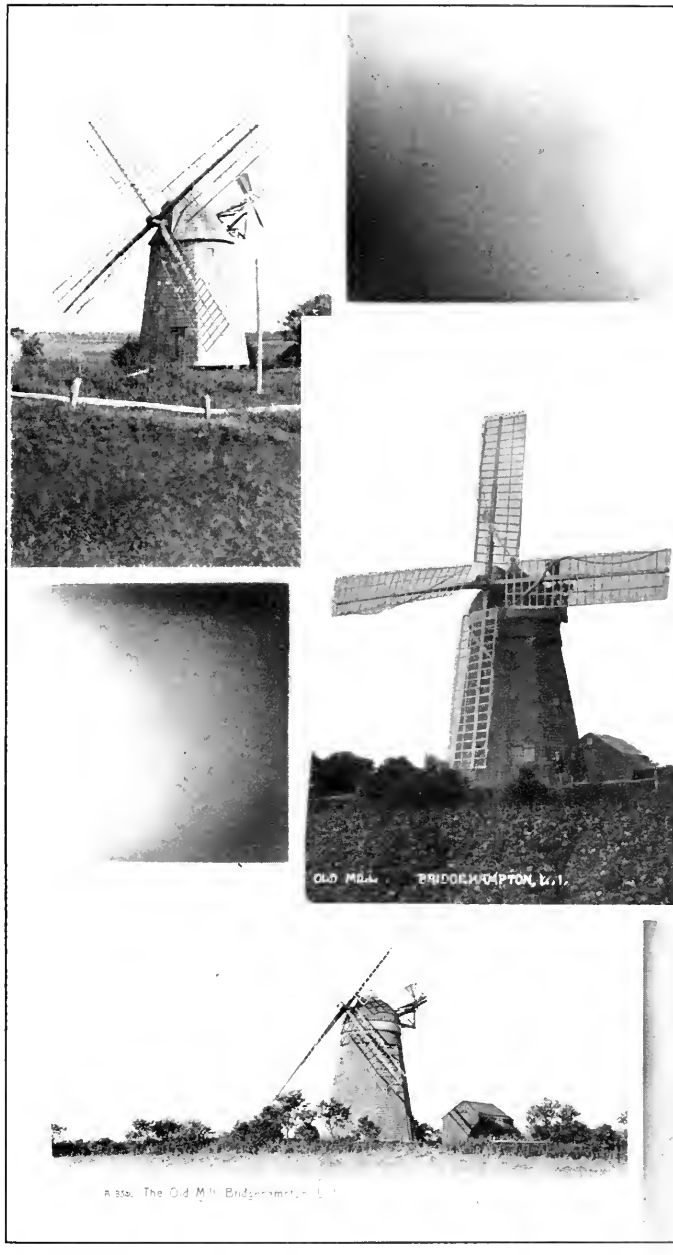
173—This is a note of Nathaniel Smith, of Moriches and reads:

Moriches January ye—173—

(Date partly illegible) Mr. Thops Peirson plese to pay to Ephram Halsey the sum of eleven pounds and this shall be your——discharge——not from your most oblegging frend to command

NATHANIEL SMITH

On the back is a receipt from Ephram Halsey.




Old Wainscott Windmill

Old Bridgehampton Windmill

Old Hay Ground Windmill

A letter addressed to —eborah Peirson—longisland Sagg begins "Dear Aunt," but is so faded that it is illegible.

The next five deeds belonged to Theophilus Peirson's son, Stephen Peirson.

1747. "Stephen Peirson his Bill of Sail from Elnathan White"

Nine acres of land "lying within the bounds of Southamton at a place known by the name of Saggabonneck" 70 pounds.

Dated "This twenty third day of October In the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty-seven and in the twenty-fifth year of the Reign of our Soverign Lord George France and Ireland defender of the Second King of Great Brittain faith&c"

1757. "Stephen Peirson His deed of Sail from Jeremiah Stratton.."

Twenty-five acres and a half within the township of Easthamton 15 pounds 6 shillings.

Dated "The eleventh day of May in the thirtieth year of his majesties Reign and in the year of our Lord anoy dom 1757".

1758. "Stephen Peirson his Deed of Saile from Josiah Stanbrough"

Twelve acres of land "lying in the township of Easthamton by Sag Line—in the forth lot in foracre division." 4 pounds 8 shillings.

Dated "In (day and month broken out) the thirty-first year of the Reign of King George the second and the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight, 1758." This deed is signed I. S. Josiah Stanbrough his mark. It is the only paper that has not a written signature.

1767. "Stephen Peirson his deed of Sale from Thomas Tarbill" "A certain piece of woodland and meadow.

"A certain peace of Land by the pond called Long pond lying on the West side of the Pond." 3 pounds

1768 "Henry Peirson his deed of Sail to Stephen Peirson."

"For one pound fore shillings a certain peice of woodland and meadow by the pond called Long Pond and by the South west Branch of the pond."

The last two deeds contain no references to the King.

There is only one more paper---a little letter from a "duteful grandaughter" written twenty years later.

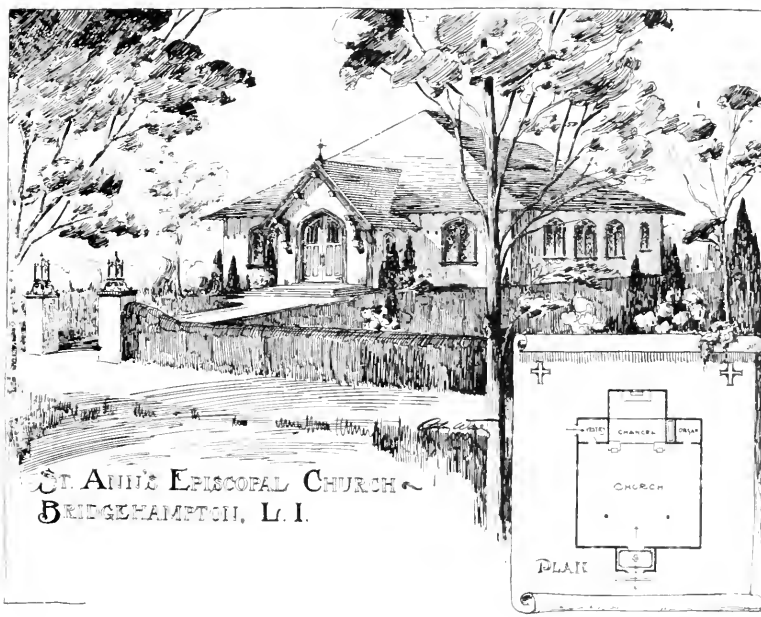
In the deeds of David and Josiah Peirson, dated 1712 and 1717, one of the landowners on the north of the Henry Peirson home lot is given as Content Morehous and John Morehous. Evidently in the next generation or possibly in the generation following, a Morehous son married a Peirson daughter and leaving the fair fields of the East end of Long Island made their new home in New Jersey.

Both the farm of John Morehous and that of Henry Peirson lay partly on the ridge of high land so well named by the early settlers Fairfield. Looking from the old Peirson farm to the east one overlooks the ocean, with its ever changing lights and shadows, from the dunes a half mile away to the far distant horizon; while close at hand, cultivated fields, pastures, with grazing cattle Fairfield Pond and Sagg Pond are sheltered by the irregular line of sand dunes, covered on their land side with bright, green dune grass.

Looking west the Shinnecock Hills, with their softer green of oak woodland, break the skyline and between lies the pretty village of Bridgehampton, with its white church spires.

One hundred and twenty-two years after the last

REMOVED TO THIS SITE AND
REMODELED IN 1871




ARCHITECT'S SKETCH OF THE NEW ST. ANN'S

of the deeds were put away for safe keeping, a letter traveled from New Jersey to the old Peirson homestead addressed to "Mr. Stephen Peirson, Bridghampton on longisland."

The letter follows:

Rawway, July 25th, 1788.

"Honored grandfather and grandmother:

I im brace this opertuity to let you now I am well I wish these may find you injoying the same blessin. I heard fram Mamas last weke they was well as useyel give mi luve to Nathan to aunt Phebe to Susanna and Abigil I here they are moved I want to see you aul and my luve to all inquiring frends. So no more at present but still remain your duteful garndaughter

CONTENT MOREHOUS

We cannot but wonder why this letter was treasured. Was it the first written by Content to her honored grandparents or was there a sad reason for its being considered so precious that it was placed with the other papers?

Stephen Peirson died the same year, 1788. Did he die without telling anyone where the papers were hidden? We only know that the little package of nineteen papers wrapped in a homespun tow cloth bag lay undisturbed under the garret floor one hundred and twenty-one years, from 1788 to 1909.

Soon after we bought the place, we were told that the house was remodeled in 1790, and the bills for this were in the possession of some one in Sag Harbor. It would be interesting to know more of those bills if they are still in existence.

I believe that Stephen Peirson's son, Theophilus succeeded him as owner of the old place. This Theophilus died in 1831, leaving several sons.

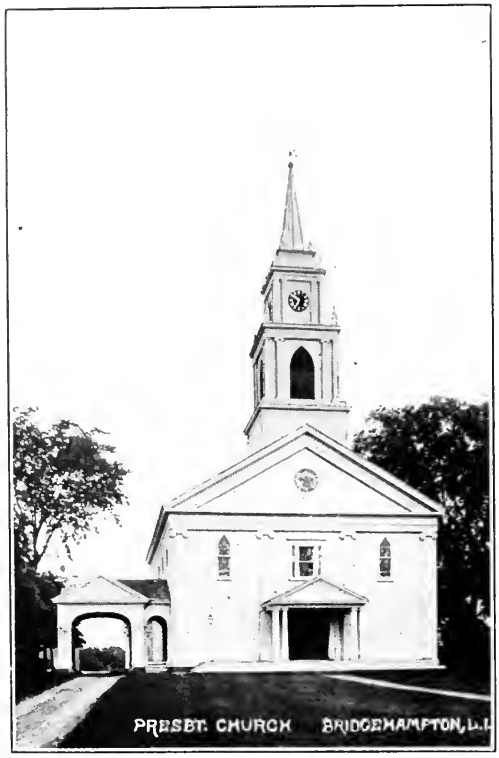
One of them walked out of the house one day and was never seen or heard from again. A gruesome tale is told of his hat and coat being found near a pit of quicksand somewhere in the woods, known as "the black pit."

Harvey, another son, who lived in the house is said to have been "witty in his cups," and some of his stories are still repeated. He married Nancy, a daughter of William Peirson After his death, his wife returned to her father's with a daughter, who died when quite young, of consumption. One or two other names are known of the same generation, but this branch of the Peirson family seem to have scattered or died out and the place passed into other hands-

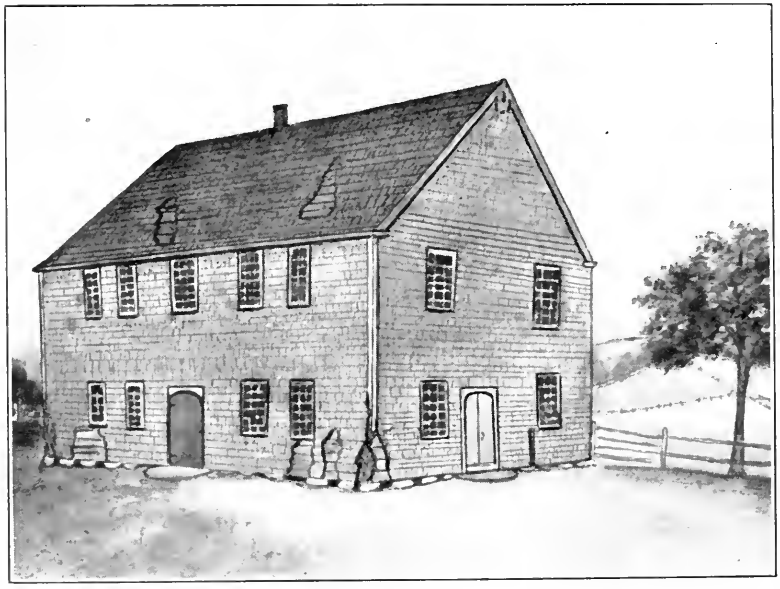
In 1835, when Edwin Hedges bought it the title was secured in the courts.

J. L. ENGLE

# GOD'S HOUSES




ERECTED IN 1842



SECOND CHURCH EDIFICE. ERECTED IN 1737
REPRODUCE FROM ORIGINAL DRAWING

## Presbyterian Church

The first edifice of this denomination was erected in 1686, near the shore of Sagaponack Pond. We print an engraving of the steel bridge crossing the pond and show about the location of the first edifice.

The second edifice was erected on the Sagaponack Road, in 1737, and continued to be used as a house of worship until 1843. It is described by Prime in his history of Long Island "as 38x54 feet with full galleries, and afforded accommodations for a large congregation." The first sermon in this house was preached by Rev. Mr. White and the last by the Rev Amzi Francis. We show a hand drawn picture of the edifice.

The third edifice, located in the heart of the village and surrounded by an expansive lawn, was dedicated in December, 1842, "and," quoting Prime, "for simple beauty, chaste neatness, just proportions, and absolute convenience, it is not exceeded by any church in the county." Its ministers since 1695 have been Rev. Ebenezer White, 1695–1748; Rev. James Brown, 1748–1775; Rev. Aaron Woolworth, D. D., 1787–1821; Rev. Amzi Francis, 1823–1845; Rev. Cornelius H. Edgar, D. D., 1846–1853; Rev. David Miller, 1854–1855; Rev. Thomas M. Gray, 1856–1866; Rev. William P. Strickland, D. D., 1866–1878; Rev. Samuel Dodd, (stated supply) 1879–1882; Rev. Arthur Newman, 1883

## The Methodist Episcopal Church

The first sermon preached by a Methodist minister in Bridgehampton was preached in a school house at Hay Ground, in 1815.

The first Methodist church was erected in the village in 1820. Rev. Reuben Harris was pastor Capt. Wm. Halsey, W M. Howell, Silas Woodruff and

Hiram Sandford were the building committee.

The first Methodist pastor to reside in Bridgehampton was the Rev. John Trippet, who came here in 1831.

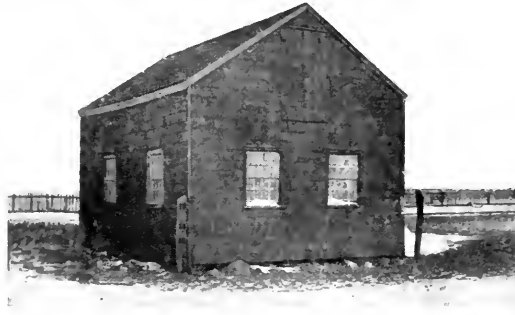
The second church edifice was dedicated in June 1833.

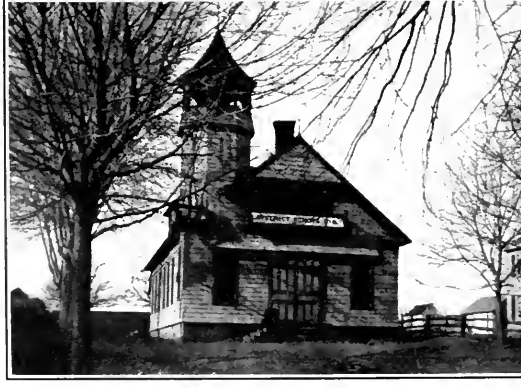
In 1871 the church was removed to the present location and enlarged at a cost of $5000.

The pastors over the church since its establishment here have been Revs. Reuben Harris, John Trippett, Samuel Merwin, C. B. Sing, George Hollis, S. Rushmore, Wm. Wake, L. D. Nickerson, William Bangs, J. O. Worth, J. S. Haugh: William Lawrence. J. Stanley D'Orsay, C. W. Gallagher, G. A. Graves, W. W. McGuire, E. H. Dutcher, A. C. Bowdish, John Brien, W. T. Hall, Wm. M. Carr, A. A. Lathabury, T. J. Shackelton, T. L. Price, H. Blatz, W. C. Wilson, George L. Thompson, A. M. Wilkins and J. W. Eggleston. (1910.)

## Protestant Episcopal Church. St.Ann's Mission.

St. Ann's Mission was established on the ninth Sunday after Trinity, August 12, 1906. The first services were held in the Sandford Homestead on Bridge Lane, Bridgehampton, the summer home of Miss Hanno J. Sherlock, of Cincinnati, Ohio. On four successive Sundays services were conducted by the Rev. Robert N. Merriman, Secretary to Bishop Burgess. These were well attended and considerable interest was aroused. Later Miss Sherlock gave the church a fine lot adjoining her home, and during the winter an attractive club house was removed to this site–the gift of the owners, Mr. and Mrs. John Deshler, of Columbus, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Miller and Mr. and Mrs. John Sherlock of Cincinnati, Ohio.





Two Old Schoolhouses
A Modern Schoolhouse: Removed to Wainscott in 1908

The Rector of St. Luke's Parish, at East Hampton, Rev. Oscar F. R Treder, assumed charge of St· Ann's on October 14, and conducted services twice a month during the winter at the home of Silas R. Corwith, M. D. On June 10, 1907, the Rev. Samuel C. Fish, Deacon, who had been appointed as Associate to the rector of St. Luke's, began his duties and St. Ann's Mission was put in his charge On the fifth Sunday after Trinity, June 30, the converted club house was first used for services, and the regular services of the church were held there all through the summer Large congregations attended, the chapel being crowded on several occasions; and generous offerings and many gifts and memorials were made, indicating the interest that was aroused.

The property on the corner of Hull Lane and Main Street was purchased in March 1908, and the Rev. Mr. Fish took up his residence here in 1908. The Mission at Southampton was started in July, 1908, from Bridgehampton.

St. Ann's was severed from St. Luke's, of Easthampton in October 1908.

The summer chapel was moved up to the village in the winter of 1909 and the present beautiful chapel was opened for services April 24, 1910.

Up to this time services had been held in summer chapel during warm weather and up stairs in the Mission House during the winter.

OLD MILLS

SCHOOL HOUSES

ANCIENT HOUSES

MODERN HOUSES

MISCELLANY

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE MONUMENT FUND

EPILOGUE

## The Old Mills

Of which we present half-tone engravings of those at Bridgehampton, Hay Ground and Wainscott, seem to be shrouded in the mists of years and the actual date they were built is unknown. Charles H. Hildreth, writing to us about these old mills, says: "Your letter asking about the date of the erection of the old mills received. Sorry to say I don't know. Wainscott Mill stood at Southampton, sixty-three years ago, when I was a school boy. The late Cornelius Conklin brought it to Wainscott about fifty years ago. In the second book of town records page 144, April 2, 1706, granted to Capt. Theophilus Howell, &c, liberty to build a mill on the triangle commons. This mill stood a little north of where Howard Halsey's shop now stands. Its present location is a little to the northeast of the railroad station. I know but very little of the Hay Ground Mill. I used to hear it called the Jesse Topping Mill when I was a boy and it was owned by a company."

## Old and New School Houses

We print herewith half-tone engravings of three of the old school houses and present excellent high school. One of the old school houses is now used as a shop on the premises of Theodore Haines, another is used as a tenement house on the property of E. P. Rogers, and still another was removed two years ago to Wainscott, where it is now used as an undenominational chapel.

## Our Old Houses

Bridgehampton has more ancient houses than any other village in the country.

The engraving shown of the Woolworth house, on Sagaponack Road, now owned and occupied by Charles Topping Ludlow is probably the best preserved if not the oldest of the old houses. It was occupied by Dr. Aaron Woolworth, while he was pastor of the Presbyterian Church from 1787 to 1821. Previous to Dr Woolworth's occupancy of it, it was occupied by the Rev. James Brown, whose ministry began here in 1748. Who occupied it previous to its occupancy by the Rev. Brown is not known, but there is no doubt that it was built sometime before the beginning of his ministry in the village.

Hiram Sandford, mentioned by Mr. Pelletreau in his very interesting address, published in full in this book, lived in the old house now owned and occupied by Charles S. Rogers in Sagaponack. Mr Rogers believes that at least one hundred years ago this house was renovated, the chimney taken out of the middle of the house and placed at the end of the house, so as to provide for the hallway which now runs through the center of the house from front to rear entrance. This house, Mr. Rogers says, was not built by Hiram Sandford but was an old house when he moved into it. There are doors in the house that are older than the house and must have been a part of a still older house.

The Briggs house, at the corner of Main street and Lumber Lane, was built by John Wick in the latter part of the seventeenth century. John Wick died in 1719, in the 59th year of his age, and the resting place of his remains were marked forty years ago by a headstone and footstone, which stood in a field somewhere in the rear of the library building. These stones were

taken up some years ago, and were later re-erected in the Southampton cemetery. The Wick (Briggs) house was at one time a tavern and in public training days was popular with the people of the village, From accounts, John Wick was a kind of Dr. Jekyl and Mr Hyde sort of a man Mr. Charles H. Hildreth tells stories which prove him to have been the one and Mr. Pelletreau describes him as the other.

The Sandford homestead, on Bridge Lane, now owned by Miss Hanno J. Sherlock, was originally the residence of Ezekiel Sandford, the first wheelwright of the village

The Corwith house, at the corner of Easthampton street and the Turnpike, belongs, really, as between our ancient and modern houses, to a medeival age. It was the residence of Judge Rose, all of whose children were born in this house and one of whom, Mrs. A. R Esterbrook, still survives.

The E. Page Topping house, at the north east corner of Sagg Road and Easthampton street, embowered in trees is more than two centuries old. It is said that the builder of the house now owned by Mrs. Russell Sage, lived in this house while the latter house was being built.

The Captain Austin house, on Easthampton street, is now owned by Mrs. Russell Sage and is treasured by her as the home of her ancestors. This house is also more than two hundred years old.

The house owned by Mr. Elisha O. Hedges, on Sagg street, south of the residence of the late Andrew Eldridge, is among the oldest of these ancient houses.

The old house occupied by Charles A. Ludlow was built in 1817. A few of the doors and the staircase in this house were a part of the original house built by Anthony Ludlam. The timber used in the construct-

ion of this house was blown down in a line gale in 1816, and the old house was torn down and the present one erected sooner than was intended for this reason.

The old Haines house is described by Addison M. Cook in "Historical Papers".

All the other houses shown on the picture pages were built the latter part of the seventeenth or the first part of the eighteenth century.

## Our Modern Houses

As a contrast in architecture we print several plates showing a few of the modern houses in the village. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries the style of the houses was pretty much the same, whether they were what is known as single or double houses A little later the style changed a little, but nearly all the houses built, even as late as 1860, were about the same pattern, the carpenter being also the architect. In our modern houses we have a diversity of styles, no two being in any particular alike.

## Brief Mention of Miscellaneous Matters

The Bridgehampton News, now in its 18th year, was founded by Frank A Burling and has been successively edited by Frank A. Burling, John L. King, now of the Westhampton Chronicle, and R. C. Hallock.

The Bridgehampton Golf Club was organized September 15, 1900, and has been growing in popularity every successive year. At the meeting, October, 1910, it had the largest membership in its history. Its officers for 1910 –11 are: President, John A. Thompson; Secretary, John E. Heartt; Treasurer, E. J. Hildreth; Governors, John A. Thompson, Henry N. Corwith, Emil Twyeffort, Dr. Colin S. Carter, E. J. Hildreth, William Wiley and John E. Heartt.

A daughter of Job Pierson (lawyer) referred to in the address of Judge Hedges, page 67, married a son of Jonas C. Heartt, of Troy, Phillip C. Heartt, who was for many years United States Consul at Glasgow. Four children of this union are now living. Pierson Heartt resides in Bloomfield, New Jersey. One daughter, married abroad, is living in Europe, being the wife of the former Prefect of Messina, Italy. Another daughter is the wife of John Jarvie and resides at Glen Ridge, New Jersey. Still another daughter is an Episcopal sister. The father of Philip C. Heartt was for ten years mayor of Troy and several terms a member and speaker of the Assembly of this state and an intimate friend of Judge Hedges.

## Contributors to the Monument Fund

Mrs. Isabella G. Francis
Mrs. Arthur Newman
Ruth Newman
Arthur N. Newman
Miriam Newman
Henry P. Hedges
Katharine P. Halsey
T. Frederick Clowes
F. V. Clowes
Walter E. Parfitt
Samuel C. Hedges
Cassander W. Hedges
Mrs. David M. Miller
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Sherlock
Mrs. J. O. Hopping
Mrs. Mary E. Topping Walker
Arabella R. Topping
Frank H. Hand
Mrs. Julie Kahle
Jas. E. Woodbridge
Henry G. Sanford
Adelaide H. Bradley
Mrs. Henry E. Huntting
Nathan T. Post
Levi W. Halsey
Rufus Rose
Isabelle Cremer
Chas. P. Topping
Chas. A. Halsey
Fred H. Rose
Chas. Rose
Melvin P. Halsey
Wm. S. Halsey
M. J. Marran
Emily A. Harvey
Hattie H. Rice
Emilie S. Topping
Howell S. Topping
H. Stewart Topping
Morgan S. Topping
Edwin J. Hildreth
Arthur A. Topping
Henry Howell
Frank C. Howell
Eugene Sayre
Theo. F. Haines
J. B. Worthington
Benj. H. Vail
Katharine P. Wright
Emily C. Hedges
Orlando Howell
Thomas C. Topping
Samuel O. Hedges
Rev. Charles H. Gardiner
Mrs. Nicholas Cooper
Mrs. B. T. Rutan
Mrs. Laura G. Ludlow
Annabel Corwith
Harriet R. Pierson
Fred H. Hildreth
Mrs. H. P. Hedges
Albert E. Topping
Mrs. John L. Gardiner
Mrs. Theron O. Worth
Mrs. Martha W. Huntting
Mrs. R. B. Lisdale
Mrs. Benj. H. Reeve
Mrs. Wm. A. Corwith
Mrs. Fannie Hardacre
C. Loretta Ludlow
Esther M. Hedges
Frank Wright
Maria Ludlow
Mrs. Geo. E. Post
Mrs. J. H. Gilbert
Mrs. Charles A. Pierson
Mrs. A. R. Esterbrook
Mrs. Rose E. Carter
Mrs. P. F. S. Chase
Mrs. Mary H. Hempstead
James S. Rogers
Grace Adams Clark
David Haines
Ben. B. Wood

Annie Quimby
Mrs. Cynthia Quimby
Edward H. Cook
Francis M'Caslin
Edward C. Dickinson
Frank H. Halsey
Stephen B. Halsey
Daniel L. Chester
Nellie Sayre
Helen Ludlow
Wm. R. Marran
Henry N. Corwith
H. H. Chatfield
Thos. C. Sweeney
John E. White
Wm. I. Halsey
Francis R. Halsey
Hugh Halsey
Flora F. Topping
Addison G. Topping
Nathan P. Halsey
Henrietta Aiken
James H. Devereux
Stephen Haynes
C. H. Eagleton
Albert W. Topping
Henry Squires
Edward A. Hildreth
Elisha Osborn
John C Sayre
Chas. O. Hedges
Samuel D. Pierson
Wm. C. Haines
Abigail Sweezey
Theodore Mount
Anna A. Rogers
Mrs. James A Rogers
James H. Rogers
Mr. and Mrs. James Talcott
Hanson C. Gibson
John E. Heartt
Mrs. John E. Heartt

Harry S. Sayre
Wm. D. Halsey
Addison M. Cook
Wm. H. Cook
Jacob O. Hopping
Mrs. Jacob Strong
Hattie Schellinger
Hattie H. Pierson
Mary Pierson
Silas R Corwith
Hampton Printing and Publishing Co.
Henry T. Haney
Chas. S Rogers
Clifford J. Foster
Thomas J. Hand
Clarissa M. Downs
Hannie M. Hand
Edwin H. Pierson
Edward G. Hedges
C. J. Mills
Emil Twyeffort
Frank Soule
George Edwards
Leonard R. Aldrich
Orville B. Ackerly
Wallace H. Halsey
Hiram A. Sandford
Charles A. Halsey
James M. Hedges
Edwin M. Rogers
Orlando H. Rogers
Nellie Rogers
Thomas J. Marran
James M. Ludlow
Wm. E. Overton
W. R. Sanford
Frank G. Sayre
John Schenck
Wm. N. Howell
Edward B. Halsey
Lettie I. Halsey
Mrs. M. L. Lobstein

In Memory M. Adelaide Steen
Wm C. Aldrich
Mrs. Caroline C. Aldrich
C. Hampton Aldrich
Mrs. Julia Howell
Richard Hagerman
Mrs. Fred. C. Tiffany
Hattie Corwith
Leroy Tiffany
Mrs. J. F. James
Mrs. Mary J. Graham
Abigail F. Woodruff
Edgar B. Mulford
Valentine Schenck
Elias M. Hedges
Frank J. Hedges
J. Howard Hand
Herbert L. Hedges
Harry Halsey
George W. Strong
Mrs. George W. Strong
Mrs. John B. Brown
Louise Brown
Mrs. Josephine H. Rose
Mrs. R. B. Knowles
J. N. Post
Mrs Harriet Gilbert
John S. Osborn
George Bascom
George M'Caslin
Charles W Hildreth
Henry H. Sandford
P B Matthews
G C Sanford
Leon Ward
Ralph Halsey
Frank S Topping
Melvin Edwards
Nelson Edwards
Henry H. Rogers
Herbert Tyndall
Charles W. Strong
D. Egbert Talmage
Thomas M. Osborn
Nathan O. Hedges
Gilbert C. Osborn
Elisha O. Hedges
James S. Strong
J. Clinton Hand
J. Everett Hand
Wm H. Hedges
Gilbert P. Rogers

Sylvester R. Halsey
Sterling H. Talmage
Wm. M. Halsey.
A. Asbury Halsey
Alfred P. Rogers
David O. Osborn
Caroline A. Hildreth
Stephen Hedges
Hiram S. Rogers
Cordelia A. Cook
Belle C. Cook
Henry J. Thomas
Henry Ludlow
Egbert W. Seabury
Charles A. Ludlow
Edward Mayer
Gurden P. Ludlow
Allen A. Halsey
Samuel Cook
Henry L. Sandford
Harry Fahy
Robert F. Halsey
Baldwin Cook
T. Emmet Cooper
Charles A. Talmage
C. Edgar Talmage
E. Forrest Stephens
John N. Hedges
J. Forrest Dominy
Wm. H. Collins
Ellsworth Howland
Wm. Post and son
Frank L. Bishop
Orlando Seabury
E. Erastus Halsey
Henry G. Conklin
Charlotte P. Rose
Charles T. Ludlow
Howard Hildreth
A. Cook Hildreth
G. Clarence Topping
Mary K. Topping
Mary E. Topping
Robert M Topping
Nellie H. Topping
N. Howell Topping
Frank E. Hopping
Ellen L. Herrick
John C. Herrick
Anita L. Herrick
Ellsworth Downs
Frank Marshall

HAMPTON NEWS to place in the hands of the reader so much of the history of the village and the stirring, heart-thrilling events of the three days which culminated in the erection of the beautiful and lasting monument on the village green.

No more tranquil skies in spring, nor bluer in summer, nor more mellow in Autumn, nor more gracious in winter, can be found than in old Bridgehampton. But far surpassing lovely skies, balmy air, beautiful and healthy environment are its quiet Sundays, undisturbed by those divertisments which make nearly every other place in some degree no different from most American and all continental cities. John Leyden described the Sabbath in Bridgehampton when he wrote

## Additional List of Contributors

Edward Crutchley
Benj. Fahy
James Fahy
James M. Mitchell
Hervey T. Hedges
David T. Dickinson

George Bascom
George M'Caslin
Charles W Hildreth
Henry H. Sandford
P B Matthews
G C Sanford
Leon Ward
Ralph Halsey
Frank S Topping
Melvin Edwards
Nelson Edwards
Henry H. Rogers
Herbert Tyndall
Charles W. Strong
D. Egbert Talmage
Thomas M. Osborn
Nathan O. Hedges
Gilbert C. Osborn
Elisha O. Hedges
James S. Strong
J. Clinton Hand
J. Everett Hand
Wm H. Hedges
Gilbert P. Rogers

J. Forrest Doughty
Wm. H. Collins
Ellsworth Howland
Wm. Post and son
Frank L. Bishop
Orlando Seabury
E. Erastus Halsey
Henry G. Conklin
Charlotte P. Rose
Charles T. Ludlow
Howard Hildreth
A. Cook Hildreth
G. Clarence Topping
Mary K. Topping
Mary E. Topping
Robert M Topping
Nellie H. Topping
N. Howell Topping
Frank E. Hopping
Ellen L. Herrick
John C. Herrick
Anita L. Herrick
Ellsworth Downs
Frank Marshall

When we wrote our "Last Words", at the close of the Story of the Celebration, we believed we had said all that it was necessary to say relative to the book, the last leaf of which leaves our hands to-day. But as the copy came in we became more and more interested in our work and realized the stupendous nature of it.

We have had to abridge necessarily much of the copy which we gathered and to leave out considerable matter as interesting and important as anything that is printed. We have had also to lay aside many engravings prepared for the work Should there be a call for another edition of the book we may then be able to make use of all the "left over" copy and engravings, which would fill a volume twice the size of this one.

If you are as interested in Bridgehampton as we are and always have been we are sure you will appreciate this little effort of the publishers of the BRIDGEHAMPTON NEWS to place in the hands of the reader so much of the history of the village and the stirring, heart-thrilling events of the three days which culminated in the erection of the beautiful and lasting monument on the village green.

No more tranquil skies in spring, nor bluer in summer,nor more mellow in Autumn, nor more gracious in winter, can be found than in old Bridgehampton. But far surpassing lovely skies, balmy air, beautiful and healthy environment are its quiet Sundays,undisturbed by those divertisments which make nearly every other place in some degree no different from most American and all continental cities. John Leyden described the Sabbath in Bridgehampton when he wrote

'With silent awe I hail the sacred morn,
  That slowly wakes while all the fields are still.
A soothing calm on every breeze is borne;
  A graver murmur gurgles from the rill,
  And echo answers softer from the hill.
And softer sings the linnet from the thorn;
  The sky-lark warbles in a tone less shrill.
Hail, light serene! hail, sacred Sabbath morn!
  The rooks float silent by, in airy drove;
The sun a placid yellow lustre throws;
The gales that lately sighed along the groves,
  Have hushed their downy wings in dead repose.
The hovering ruck of clouds forgets to move;
  So smiled the day when the first morn arose."

We lay down our pen with regret, for our work has been a labor of love, and as at the beginning so at the close of our labors we invoke the blessing of God upon this little volume of text and pictures, this duo of the pen and camera.

JOHN E. HEARTT